Hafa Adai!

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POLL RESULTS

Are you satisfied with the settlement agreement reached in Betty Johnson's class suit versus the NMI Retirement Fund?

Yes	26
No	40
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Sunday, August 18, 2013

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BUSINESS

Electric companies are beginning to sound like mobile phone companies.

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ASIA

34 are killed and 80 are missing after ferry sinks in the Philippines.

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LIFE & STYLE

Singer Chris Brown is sentenced to 1,000 hours of community labor.

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'Fund settlement deal unconstitutional'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

» Inos says those opting out won't have guaranteed minimum payment

In Rep. Janet Maratita's view, the tentatively approved NMI Retirement settlement agreement is "unconstitutional, illegal, and a breach of fiduciary duty" to the CNMI people and the Fund.

This came even as Gov. Eloy S. Inos pointed out anew that those who opt out of the settlement class won't have the same guaranteed minimum payment of 75 percent of their pension.

Maratita

Maratita (Ind-Saipan) wrote a two-page letter to the governor on Friday, opposing the settlement deal and offering recommendations that she thinks would be "fair" to affected Fund members.

"Your agreement to commit the Commonwealth to pay millions of

See FUND on Page 4

Diego's entry to CPA blocked

» Committee endorsement defeated on floor by 3-2 vote

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The expected appointment of former lieutenant governor Diego T. Benavente to the helm of the Commonwealth Ports Authority fell through after two board members blocked his endorsement during a special meeting Friday.

Benavente

The personnel committee's endorsement to appoint Benavente to the executive director position was defeated on a 3-2 vote after failing to get the support of Thomas Kiyu Villagomez and Barrie Toves.

Those who supported Benavente's appointment were board chair Jose Lifoifoi, Frances Mafnas, and personnel committee chair Fermin Sakisat.

The board needed four votes to adopt the personnel committee's recommendation to hire

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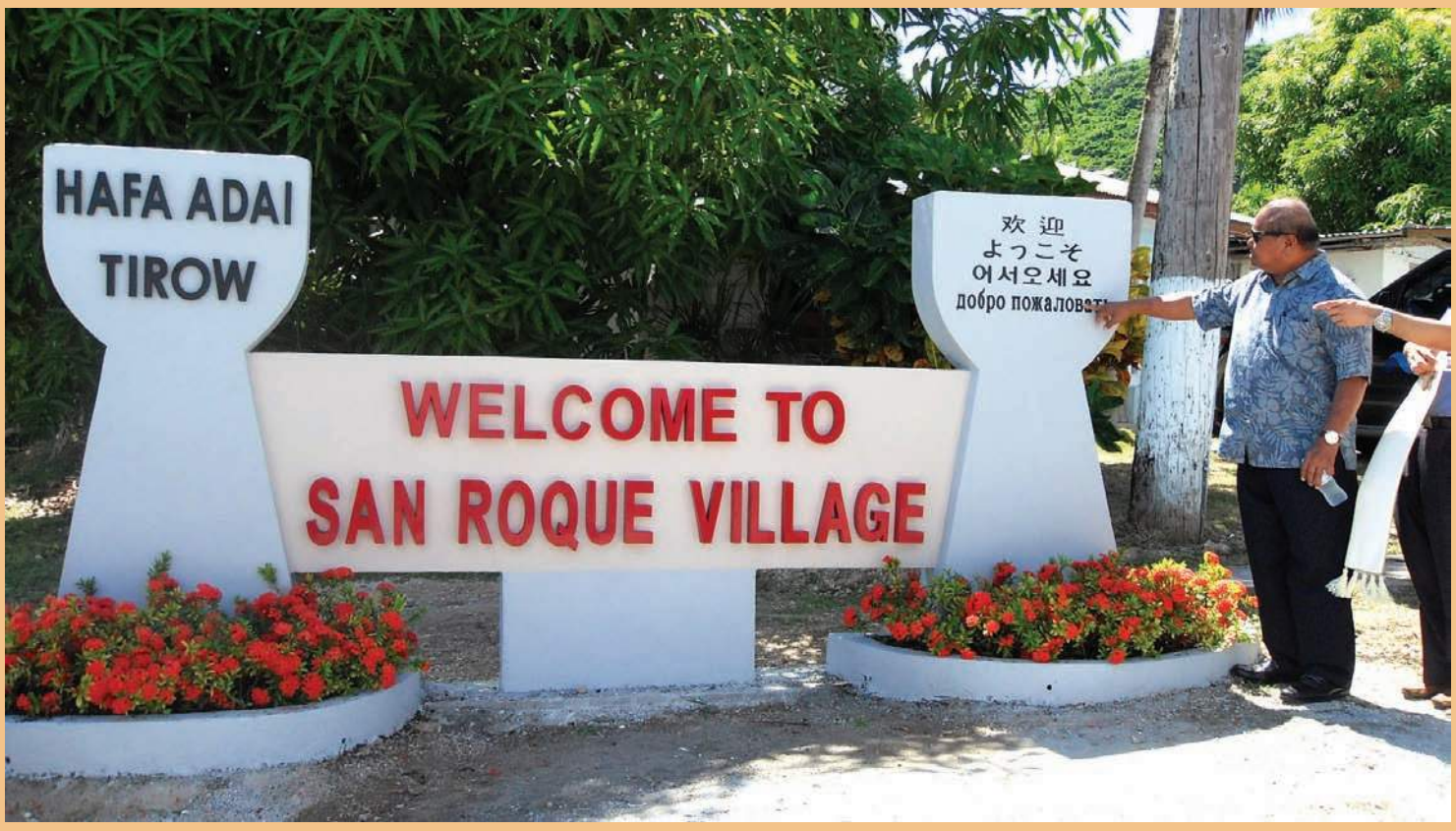

'WELCOME TO OUR VILLAGE'

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, right, points to the Russian, Japanese, Korean, and Chinese translations of the word "welcome" shortly after leading Friday's unveiling of a village sign in San Roque. The governor also led the unveiling of a similar sign in Tanapag, as part of Reps. Christopher Leon Guerrero (Cov-Saipan) and House minority leader George Camacho's (R-Saipan) Precinct 4 tourism project.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Firefighter arrested for alleged sex with 2 minors

BY FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

» 'Mamasang' allegedly offered girls in exchange for 'ice,' money

The Federal Bureau of Investigation arrested Thursday a firefighter who allegedly took videos of himself having sex with two underaged girls. Authorities also apprehended the woman who offered the girls to him in exchange for methamphetamine or "ice" and money.

Richard Sullivan Benavente, 43, a firefighter at the Department of Public Safety, was served with an arrest warrant for sexual exploitation of children. Annette Nakatsukasa Basa was arrested for sex trafficking of children.

Benavente and Basa were taken to the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Friday. Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona un-

See MINORS on Page 4

ON MILITARY'S PROPOSED USE OF TINIAN, PAGAN

Public scoping draws 198 comments

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

A total of 198 unique comments and eight duplicates were received during scoping meetings related to the proposed use of Tinian and Pagan for live-fire military training, all of which will help the U.S. Department of Defense determine the nature and extent of issues that need to be addressed in pursuing its plans.

Among these comments is the proposed separation into two distinct environmental impact statement, or EIS, the proposed Pagan and Tinian ranges "to prevent the downfall of one range because of the other."

The comments also questioned the need for live-fire training, given computer simulation technology and the existing training ranges on Farallon de Medinilla, Guam, and Hawaii.

Comments also expressed a desire for

See PUBLIC on Page 4

Freedom Air told to vacate airport facilities. PAGE 3
Ex-Army Ranger: CNMI laws on handguns unconstitutional. PAGE 5

Group stresses importance of keeping the Paseo clean

PDM Promoters, Inc. reiterated the significance of keeping the Paseo de Marianas clean and attractive after the group held its monthly cleanup on Aug. 10 at the tourist district.

"Paseo de Marianas is the heart of Garapan, three major hotels are within the area, so this is the main access for tourists in going around like shopping, eating out, etc. Keeping it clean and attractive is good for our visitors, it will make them feel they are safe here," said the group's spokesperson, Sonia Siwa, in email to the *Saipan Tribune.*

In all, PDM Promoters' volunteers picked up 840 lbs of trash between 8am and 11am on Aug. 10.

The volunteers as usual were made up of 11 Kinpachi Restaurant staff, two Saipan Awaodori Team members, and Evelyn Hermosilla and Innocencia Opokunong. The latter two are the mothers of Saipan Awaodori Team members currently in Japan, Elisa Lazaro and Itheyvin They, respectively.

Two volunteers from the Tan Siu Lin Foundation, who Siwa said have been repainting the Paseo de Marianas walkway for almost a week now, also joined the group.

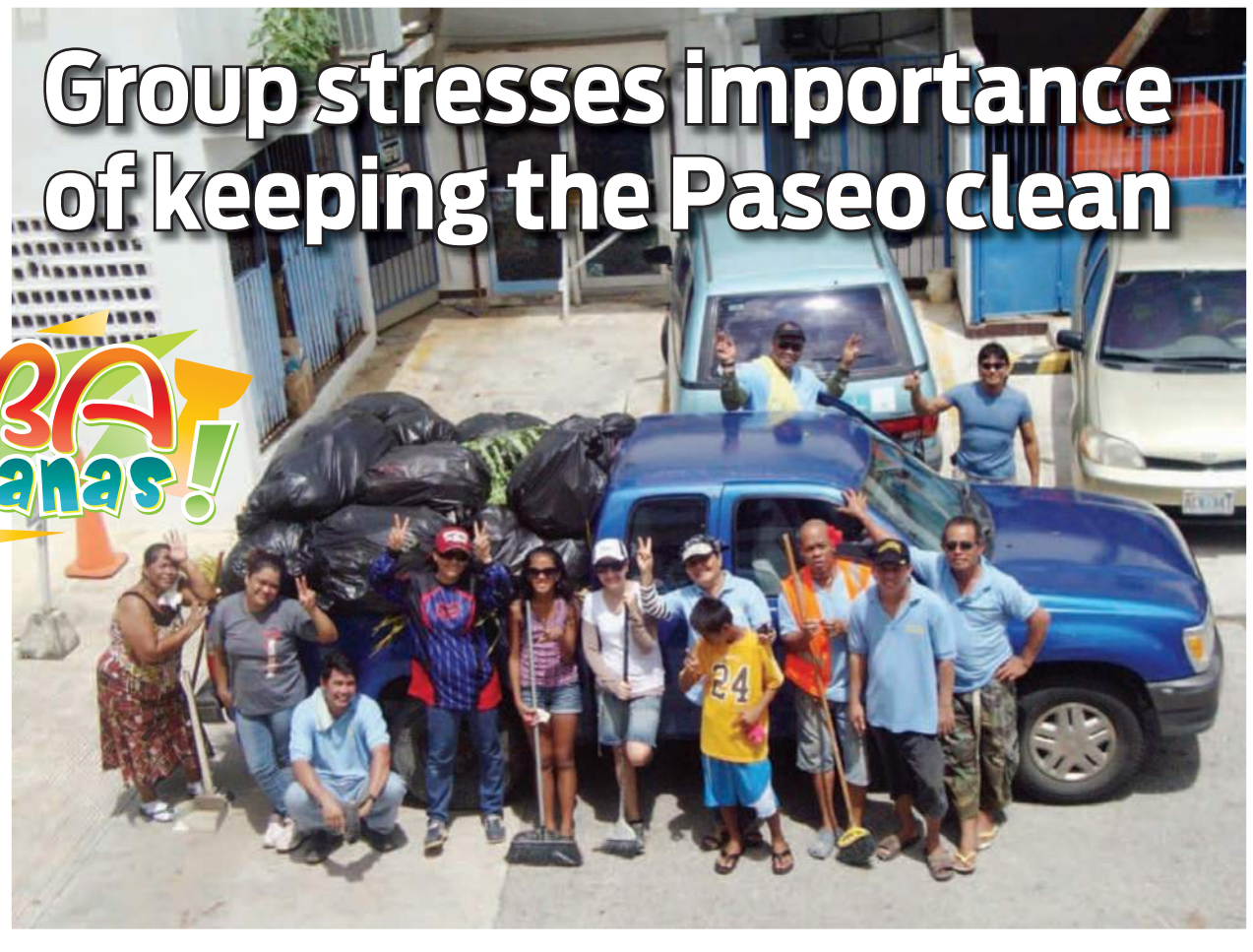
"They came just in time when we were done with our cleanup. A month ago they did water blasting in the area. PDM Promoters really appreciates the effort of these volunteers in making the Paseo de Marianas clean and attractive for our tourists," she said.

The type of trash the group collected two Saturdays ago were made up mostly of cigarette butts, beer bottles and cans, Styrofoam cups and plates, plastic forks and spoons, empty noodle cups, and dried bushes and leaves.

"We did bush-cutting at Paseo de Marianas and betel nut stains still remain, especially on the bench area in front of Beach Road. When we did the bush-cutting in front of the Garapan Square Building, the lady worker of the building also helped us in sweeping around the bushes."

PDM Promoters is a community group also known for its support of the cultural dance group, the Saipan Awaodori Team, as well as keeping the Paseo de Marianas spick and span throughout the year.

The group's monthly cleanups collect up to 1,000 lbs of trash during these drives. Aside from the TSL Foundation, other major sponsors of PDM Promoters are DFS Galleria Saipan and Docomo Pacific. ***(Mark Rabago)***



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

PDM Promoters, Inc. volunteers pose in front and at the back of a pickup truck that yields the 840 lbs of trash they collected last Aug. 10 during their monthly cleanup of Paseo de Marianas.

Kilili: Rota is best place for marine monument visitors center

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) reiterated his preference to have the Marianas Trench Marine Monument visitors center be located on Rota even as he assured that he will try his best to get a bill passed conveying to the CNMI the same 3-mile territorial sea or submerged lands limit as Guam and other U.S. islands.

The congressman made these pronouncements a day after Marianas Conservation's John Gourley said that no co-management of the monument actually exists despite promises made by the federal government.

"S. 256 passed the Senate. The month of September has only nine legislative days and there's an intense competition for time. Spending bills are up, there's a rush to pass the fishing part of the farm bill, there's all sorts of legislations. The debt ceiling is coming up and I'm not sure if it comes up in September but the competition for time is intense and so we have to work to find small window where we can pass the Senate 256 and send it to the President's desk for signature. We're working hard on that," said Sablan.

Gourley, in a lecture series about the Marianas Trench Marine Monument last Wednesday, said the key in getting co-management rights to the monument is making sure that the Commonwealth has control of its submerged lands.

Aside from conveying submerged lands to the CNMI, S. 256, which passed the U.S. Senate last June, also delays the CNMI minimum wage.

Sablan, who did not sign the agreement for the monument, said he is not even sure if there's no co-management between local and federal authorities to begin with.

"About the promises of the economic environmental council, yes, I'm aware that promises were made [but] I'm not sure if there's really no co-management because there's an advisory board that works with them."

He said his initial preference was that the Marianas Trench and its surrounding environs be made into sanctuary so it could become NOAA's (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) jewel.

Sablan doesn't understand the controversy about who manages the monument when the area encompassing it also involves Guam and the Federated States of Micronesia,

"It belongs to us and Guam and actually part of the monument borders Guam, Yap, and the state of Chuuk. Let's not forget that the real location of the Challenger Deep is in Chuuk, not in the Marianas, if you look at the latitude and the coordinates."

Given a choice, he would like the visitors center placed on Rota, the CNMI's closest island to Guam.

"What I want to do with the visitors center is put it on Rota. It's much closer to Guam. I would like to have an arrangement eventually…where the University of Guam runs it. The visitors center is not only for tourism. It's also a place were scientists can come and do research about the monument."

Sablan said the UOG already has a huge marine laboratory and it has graduate students and marine biologists already working there that can also work on the monument.

"Rota is a really beautiful island and if we want to make Rota an ecotourism island, we need to start promoting ecotourism. There are people from Beijing and from other big cities who want to get away from the city so we can invite them to come to Rota. We can work on the national park there. Rota also has a bird sanctuary. There are a lot of ancient Chamorro history there and that's why we should put the visitors center there despite there having disagreements with local officials."

Sablan said if local politicians want it elsewhere then they should find the money themselves.

"If I'm the one who's going to look for the money then I'm going to make some decisions on where it should be and Rota is the most ideal place. I got $200,000 to do an outreach and decide where is the best place to do this and what they did with the money was they looked at the lighthouse on Saipan. How can you do marine research up a hill? They just spent $200,000 of American taxpayer's money…"

Tourism Topics

A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority

Tourism is everybody's business.

KumSung Elementary Visits

KumSung Elementary School of Korea made a school trip to the Northern Marianas in July as part of the **MICE Incentive Group Support** program of the **Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA).**

The MICE program offers financial support to tour agents bringing large groups of visitors to Saipan, Tinian, and Rota for meetings, incentives, conferences, or exhibitions.

One hundred seven students of KumSung Elementary were in Saipan from July 2-5, 2013. The group was handled by **Hana Tour** and lodged at **Pacific Islands Club Saipan** during their visit. The students also received **Marianas Guidebooks** and island maps from the MVA as part of the visit.

So far this fiscal year, the Northern Marianas has recevied over 98,000 visitors from Korea, a four percent increase in arrivals compared to the same period last year. Visitors from Korea currently comprise about 31 percent of all visitor arrivals to the islands.

Paid for with a federal grant from the Office of Insular Affairs.

Saipan Tinian Rota

HAFA ADAI & TIROW WAY

Local

Insurance firm reinstates Freedom Air's coverage

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The insurance company that earlier cancelled the coverage of Freedom Air's aircraft on Aug. 16 has reinstated its coverage of the local carrier after the company paid its unpaid liability insurance premiums.

Highly-placed sources told *Saipan Tribune* that Houston Casualty Company London Insurers (Marsh Aviation) formally notified concerned agencies about the reinstatement of Freedom Air's coverage over the weekend.

The insurance firm earlier notified the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration, the Guam Ports Authority, and the Commonwealth Ports Authority about the insurance cancellation beginning Aug. 16 due to Freedom Air's failure to pay the premium coverage for 10 of its aircraft.

Saipan Tribune learned that Freedom Air's insurance certificate was issued on March 8, 2013, and is supposed to expire in March next year. Due to the nonpayment, it was cancelled last Friday, Aug. 16.

While Freedom Air has successfully rectified its insurance problem, another blow is coming its way after the CPA board adopted a decision on Friday to issue a "notice to vacate" to the company. The reason: some $1.2 million it owes CPA since 2011.

Freedom Air owner and president Joaquin Flores has yet to comment on the issue as of press time.

Saipan Tribune learned that Freedom Air has been delinquent since September last year in paying the aviation fee and this has ballooned to $533,594. The firm also owes $616,777 in passenger facility charges and $52,761 in other fees like badges, lease, utility usage, and promissory note account.

The CPA board's decision to evict Freedom Air was reached after an hourlong executive session with its legal counsel, Robert Torres.

Freedom Air will be asked to vacate the premises of all CPA ports within 30 days after receiving the board's letter.

During the board's deliberation on Friday, it was learned that CPA first issued a "termination letter" to the company several months ago.

In an interview with acting CPA executive director Mary-Ann Lizama, she disclosed to *Saipan Tribune* that since the board's last meeting in June when Freedom Air executives appealed to the board for consideration, the company has yet to come up with a concrete plan to settle its aging accounts.

Lizama disclosed, however, that after the June meeting, Freedom Air has been paying the passenger facility charge on a daily basis, the amount of which depends on the number of passengers each day.

As a process, before a notice to vacate is issued by CPA, the company involved must be notified and issued a "termination notice" first and this was issued much earlier by the ports authority, according to CPA officials.

Freedom Air has been servicing the three islands and Guam for 39 years.

Prosecutor rapped for postponement request

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has ordered assistant attorney general Chemere McField to appear in court today, Monday, and explain why she should not be held in contempt or sanctioned for asking to postpone the jury trial of a businessman facing charges of sexual abuse of a minor.

In an order on Friday, Camacho noted that McField has a history of appearing at pre-trial conference and representing that the prosecution is ready for trial, only to come back later to request that the trial should be continued or that the prosecution is not ready.

On Friday, McField filed a motion to continue the jury trial of businessman Ho Jin Yoon.

On July 31, 2013, a pre-trial conference was held and it was determined that the jury trial in Yoon's case will proceed on Sept. 9, 2013.

Camacho said the court and court staffs have initiated the jury summons process.

Further, the judge said, he expedited the review and issuance of an order granting Yoon's motion to use Skype so that Yoon could engage the use of an off-island expert.

Camacho said other trials and hearings set on Sept. 9 and the week after Sept. 9 were moved to clear the court's calendar.

Police arrested Yoon in March 2013 for allegedly sexually abusing a 6-year-old girl. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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PUBLIC

From Page 1

military training to occur in a location other than Pagan, Tinian, or in the CNMI.

Moreover, comments related to Pagan expressed opposition to any use of the island for military training or avoid Pagan entirely and conduct military training only on existing leased lands on Tinian.

Two-thirds of Tinian lands are already leased by the U.S. military.

The other comments and concerns were related to indirect/cumulative impacts, environmental effects, airspace, land use, cultural resources, transportation, utilities, socioeconomics and general services, hazardous materials and waste, public health and safety, environmental justice and mitigation.

The military released on Friday the scoping summary report for the CNMI joint military training's EIS/overseas EIS, as well as a summary of the comments received from agencies and the public on the proposed action to improve existing and build new range and training areas on Tinian and Pagan.

The close of the public scoping period completes the first milestone in the National Environmental Policy Act process.

Craig Whelden, executive director of the Marine Corps Forces Pacific, said public participation is an important part of the NEPA process.

"The strong showing at our public meetings and the large number of comments we received ensures that as we proceed with our analysis, we understand and can address the issues that are important to the citizens of the CNMI," Whelden said in a statement.

The scoping summary report for the CNMI Joint Military Training EIS/OEIS is available at www.CNMIJointMilitaryTrainingEIS.com/Announcements/15.

The scoping process provided opportunities for CNMI elected officials, government agencies, interest groups, and the public to learn about the proposed action and alternatives, suggest alternative approaches, and provide input.

Overall, scoping comments about Pagan alternatives centered on the short-term and long-term effects of military training on the island.

Comments about Tinian alternatives focused on how military training activities could influence economic and agricultural development, restrict travel to and from the island, and impact residents' lives.

The CJMT EIS team is currently working to collect data and evaluate the potential impacts of the proposed action.

Studies and surveys to support the CJMT EIS are expected to continue into 2014.

The next opportunity for public comment is after the release of the Draft EIS/OEIS, which is expected to be available late 2014.

MINORS

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sealed the case and ordered the two's continued detention.

A detention hearing will be held on Wednesday at 9am.

Court-appointed counsels Mark Hanson and Steven Pixley appeared for Benavente and Basa respectively. Assistant U.S. attorney Ross Naughton represented the U.S. government.

If convicted, Benavente faces a minimum of 15 years in prison and up to a maximum of 30 years, according to U.S. Attorney for the Districts of Guam and the NMI Alicia A.G. Limtiaco in a statement.

Basa, on the other hand, faces a minimum of 10 years in prison and up to a maximum of life imprisonment, Limtiaco added.

"Protecting our children and community from those who engage in human trafficking and the exploitation of children is a top priority of the Department of Justice," Limtiaco said. "This investigation shows the commitment of federal and local law enforcement to work together to investigate and prosecute child exploitation and to rescue and assist victims."

FBI special agent Haejun Park stated in his affidavit that the investigation began on July 16, 2013, when DPS received an anonymous tip through the Crime Stoppers Program about the sexual abuse of a minor.

Park said the tipster also emailed a video file that depicted a man identified as Benavente having sex with a 15-year-old girl.

Further investigation showed that it was Basa who induced the girl and another 15-year-old girl to have sex with Benavente and other men in exchange for "ice" and/or cash, Park said.

He related that, in separate interviews with authorities, Benavente said that he has known Basa for 10 years and that he began having sex with girls she introduced to him five years ago.

The firefighter allegedly paid Basa with drugs or money in exchange for sex with the girls. Basa was referred to as the Chamorro "mamasang."

In one of the incidents, Basa called and texted Benavente on June 23, 2013, offering him two young girls in exchange for drugs and money. She told him that the girls were 18 and 19 years old.

Benavente gave Basa "ice" and then took the girls to a "shack" on top of his apartment on Saipan where he had sex with the two. During the incident, Benavente used his cellular phone to record himself and both girls.

In early July 2013, Benavente allegedly had sex with both minors at a hotel on Saipan. Benavente brought a digital camera and a tripod to film himself having sex with the two girls. When the camera's battery ran out of power, one of the girls' cell phone was used to continue the recording.

Park said he viewed three separate video files recovered by the DPS. The first two show the girl and another minor girl engaging in oral sex with an adult male. The third file shows Benavente engaging in sexual conduct with one of the two girls.

Park said that DPS interviewed one of the two girls on July 18, while he interviewed the same minor on July 23.

In those interviews, Park said the girls stated that they were introduced to Basa in May 2013 by another girl. Shortly thereafter, the two girls moved in with Basa at her home in Afetnas.

In May 2013, Basa began directing the two girls to have sex with adult men. Basa would arrange the meetings using her phone or in person.

The men would give Basa money or "ice" in exchange for sex with the two girls. One girl named several men with whom she had sex at Basa's direction.

DIEGO

From Page 1

Benavente.

Since at the start of the special meeting, both Villagomez and Toves sought clarification from board legal counsel Janet King on the voting procedure for the committee report. The two asked for these clarifications after Sakisat made the motion to have the full board accept the committee report.

After hearing from the legal counsel that the two issues are separate from one another and require separate votes, Lifoifoi called for a five-minute recess.

Once the meeting resumed, Mafnas expressed her intention to defer the voting but this was blocked by Villagomez.

"Mr. Chairman, can I make a motion to defer this…?" said Mafnas.

Villagomez interrupted: "Let's get it over with. We're now voting for the committee report." All five members then voted to accept the report.

On the actual vote for the recommendation to appoint Benavente to the post, Villagomez was the first to cast his "no" vote for Benavente. Toves then sealed the defeat of the motion.

According to Toves, he did not support the committee selection mainly because of the two candidates' absence of any aviation or maritime background. Besides Benavente, the other candidate for the post is John Oliver Gonzales.

"[Former CPA board member Benigno] Sablan, during the May 31 minutes of the special meeting, was even quoted during the debate on the floor that the 'board will not hire someone who have no aviation or maritime background and I strongly feel that none of the two candidates possess those direct experience in maritime and aviation," Toves told his colleagues, adding that even if the position is re-announced and the same candidates apply, this will not push through due to the absence of the needed background.

The board had lowered its qualification requirement for the executive director post. Many believed that this was done to accommodate Benavente. Under the revised qualification, a college degree may be substituted by "long years of public administration experience."

After the motion's defeat on the floor, Villagomez told the board to consider acting executive director MaryAnn Lizama for the position.

"I recommend that the full board...consider getting the acting executive director for the position, maybe tentatively for six months or so…because I think she's more than qualified," said Villagomez.

But according to Lifoifoi, since "Applicant No. 1" was rejected by the board, the usual process is to consider "Applicant No. 2."

"Why don't we go to the second nominee? Since this board rejected Diego, how about the second in line?" he asked.

Villagomez replied: "Personally, Mr. Chairman…I still recommend that we announce the position and I am also recommending the acting executive director [Lizama]."

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune* after the meeting, Lifoifoi said the board will consult with a lawyer on what will be its next best step.

"We will get the opinion of the legal counsel on this issue whether we will re-announce the position or not. But the decision will still be up to the board," he said.

If the post is re-announced, can Benavente still apply for the second round? "I don't know. I'm not sure," Lifoifoi said.

Both Benavente and Gonzales will be notified about the board's decision.

When asked for comments about Villagomez's choice to have her permanently assigned to the post, Lizama said: "I have no comments on that. But the only thing I am going to say is I will continue to do right for CPA whether in an acting capacity or permanent capacity. My responsibility is to the board and to the employees of the orts authority. My main focus right now is to ensure that things run well and go well at CPA.

Saipan Tribune learned that Lizama technically did not apply for the position. Her documents were turned in by staff and she later pulled them out once the papers reached her table.

"It was kind of a sweet gesture from employees who submitted my application. I am very flattered by their intention and that means a lot to me, but I'd rather do this my way," she told *Saipan Tribune.*

Lizama was appointed acting executive director after the board fired former executive director Ed Deleon Guerrero in March.

FUND

From Page 1

dollars for an indefinite period of time without regard to 'anticipated revenues' is unconstitutional and illegal, at best," Maratita said in her letter.

The governor said that without the settlement deal that guarantees minimum pension payment, the Fund would cease to exist much faster than earlier anticipated.

Restoration of the deferred 25-percent pension will depend on the availability of funds that the Legislature will appropriate based on new revenue-generating measures and an improved economy.

Maratita said the governor is constitutionally and statutorily mandated to submit to the Legislature a "proposed annual balanced budget" that describes the CNMI's anticipated revenues and recommended expenditures.

Maratita also said it is a breach of the governor's fiduciary duty to agree to cut retirees' pension by 25 percent "without a corresponding cut from the CNMI budget."

"It is quite disappointing that the defined benefit members have no option but to sign a waiver of their vested interest due them, in order that they get their contribution. I do not blame them for such action as I would do the same considering the financial hardship, desperation, and uncertainty of their contribution funds," Maratita told Inos.

The governor continues to ramp up support for the settlement agreement, which he describes as the best that the CNMI government could enter into considering the government's financial constraints.

Inos said the only thing certain at this point is the guaranteed minimum payment of at least 75 percent of class members' benefits.

"The whole thing with the settlement is that it's a class action and it's supposed to benefit all members of that class so if a Retirement Fund member is not part of the class, they won't be able to get the benefits of the settlement," Inos said in an interview at a village sign unveiling ceremony on Friday.

8 proposals

Maratita is proposing to the governor at least eight recommendations, including not cutting the pensions of those receiving $15,000 and below.

It remains to be seen whether Maratita's position on the settlement deal would gain traction.

The administration has been pointing out that if the people who opt out from the settlement class have benefits equal to or exceeding 10 percent of the full benefits payable in fiscal year 2014, the settlement deal will be void.

Moreover, if the U.S. District Court does not grant final approval or if the settlement deal fails, the parties will return to litigation and proceed as though there were never a settlement agreement.

Maratita begs to differ, asserting that the 25 percent cut should not be across the board. She said if parties agreed and the court approves, "then I believe it's doable."

She reiterated her earlier call for a 25-percent cut in the government "so that everyone shares the burden and enjoys the benefits alike." Any realized savings from the corresponding cuts should be allocated to the Retirement Fund, she said.

"If there is any increase in anticipated revenues in subsequent fiscal years, a fixed percentage should be given to the Retirement Fund. Any increases in the CNMI budget should be proportionately allocated so that the Retirement fund contributions should also be increased," she said.

Maratita said withdrawals by active and inactive members must be given interest.

She also called for the restoration of the Fund board of trustees to cut costs of the current trustee *ad litem.*

Maratita said the CNMI's income from private entities in which the CNMI holds shares, including UMDA and Rota Cable TV, for example, should be allocated to pay the Fund.

In townhall meetings he has been holding and will hold on Rota and Tinian, Inos has been trying to get people to understand the nature and impact of the settlement agreement.

"Other things are happening with respect to the settlement. Beginning Aug. 20, a formal notice to the retirees who do not want to stay within the settlement fund may opt out. That's the time in which they will be allowed to do the opt out. Of course everything must be done by Sept. 30 at which time the U.S. District Court judge is expected to [make] a final approval on the settlement and after which certain things will happen including the release and payment of the balance of the withdrawals for the [Public Law] 17-82 and then of course everything will kick in Oct. 1," the governor said in an interview.

The outreach continues this week including a townhall meeting on Rota on Tuesday and on Tinian on Thursday. The governor may hold another townhall meeting on Saipan, specifically in Kagman where there is a large concentration of retirees and other Fund members.

Ex-Army Ranger: CNMI laws on handguns unconstitutional

A former U.S. Army Ranger who is now an educator has agreed with a lawyer that the CNMI Weapons Act is unconstitutional and should be repealed or made moot.

Paul Aguon Murphy said that defendant Sergio M. Rangamar should not be charged with criminal action for the mere possession of a handgun.

Murphy so far is the only one to submit an *amicus curiae* (friend of the court) brief at the invitation of Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho.

Attorney Mark Scoggins, counsel for Rangamar, has asked the court to dismiss the charges of illegal possession of a firearm and illegal possession of ammunitions against Rangamar.

Scoggins asserts that laws that outlaw the simple possession of handguns in the CNMI are unconstitutional. He pointed out that portions of the Commonwealth Weapons Act are unconstitutional under the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Police arrested the 36-year-old Rangamar for allegedly aiming a gun at his two cousins in Gualo Rai. Police recovered at the scene a 9mm semi-automatic pistol with a 9mm live round in the chamber, another live round in the magazine, seven 9mm full rounds, and five 9mm hallow point live rounds.

In a recent order, Camacho said how the issue in Rangamar's motion is resolved has the potential of legalizing handguns in the CNMI so he desires a "robust record" in order to consider the motion to dismiss.

Camacho directed the parties to submit supplemental briefing. He also urged interested parties to submit briefs.

In his brief filed last week, Murphy said that Article 1 Section 2202 specifically violates Rangamar's second amendment right by banning handguns en banc, therefore making the mere possession of a handgun a criminal act.

Citing several court rulings, including a U.S. Supreme Court's, Murphy said the second amendment has been interpreted to mean that an individual has the right to possess a firearm for self-defense.

Murphy noted, among other things, that Article 1 Section 2204 violates the defendant's second amendment right by banning the possession of a firearm precluding approval and receipt of a Firearms Identification Card.

Murphy said he returned to the CNMI in July 2007 on military leave to complete his term of service as a U.S. Army Ranger.

He said he flew from Columbus, Georgia to Saipan with a number of firearms and ammunitions and declared those as per the firearms declaration forms provided in U.S. airports.

Murphy said he presented the firearms to the CNMI Customs agent in accordance with the firearms declaration form.

He said the Customs agent called his supervisor and he was brought into the supervisor's office where an Alcohol Tobacco Firearms agent, FBI agent, and the Commerce director were present.

"I was questioned as to the legality of the firearms and ammunition and was accused by the director of Commerce of stealing those items," he said.

Murphy said the authorities later determined that he did not commit any crime and was allowed to enter the CNMI.

He said all his firearms and ammunition were confiscated and was informed that two of his firearms would not be allowed into the CNMI so he was forced to store them at the Guam Police Department Armory.

In addition, Murphy said a large portion of his ammunition was also not allowed into the CNMI and is currently being held at the CNMI Police Department Armory.

He said he was forced to pay for the entire CNMI licensing process for firearms he already owns, even though he possesses a concealed carry license from the State of Georgia, safely used firearms throughout his military career, was cleared by the FBI background check to purchase and own firearms, and cleared multiple domestic and international airline security checkpoints en route to Saipan.

Murphy said the CNMI's firearms licensing laws force him to pay for the license every two years or risk the reconfiscation of his firearms.

"I waited for nearly two years before my first CNMI firearms application was approved. I was psychologically and emotionally traumatized over being disarmed. I felt dishonored," he said. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Guam police: Woman was homicide victim

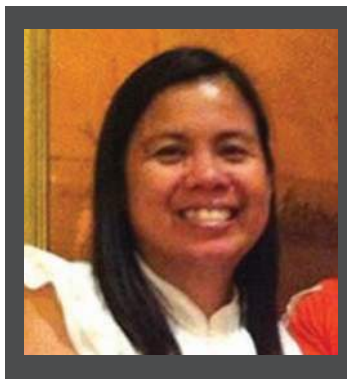
HAGATNA, Guam (AP)— Police in Guam say the death of a 55-year-old woman has been reclassified as a homicide.

The body of Shelly Bernstein was found just after midnight Tuesday morning in her first-floor apartment in Tamuning on the western shore of Guam.

Police after the discovery said she had suffered a head injury.

Guam Memorial Hospital Nursing Supervisor Jo Eustaquio tells *Pacific Daily News* that medics reported the woman had suffered a gunshot wound.

Bernstein was a United Airlines flight attendant.



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy, happy birthday to Eloisa Manese! Count not the candles, see the light they give! Count not the years but the life you live! You are blessed with a wonderful husband and kids! Wishing you more wonderful times ahead! Enjoy!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on **August 21,** will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before **August 21.**

THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION IT&E CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE

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IT&E Life in Motion

To avoid disconnection you may pay your IT&E bill at any location below:

SHELL Service Stations – up to 4:00pm
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Tinian/Rota Office - up to 4:30pm
TSL Plaza – up to 6:00pm
Online payment – up to 9:00pm

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A Medicare Supplemental Plan that provides Senior Citizens with active Medicare Part A&B* the benefit coverage for services that Medicare does not cover.

TakeCare +Plus is designed to enhance your Medicare coverage. It covers select out-of-pocket expenses, such as Part A and B deductibles and costs. Also, it gives you the freedom to visit any licensed doctor who accepts Medicare. Flexibility and peace of mind, that's TakeCare +Plus.

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Over 900 students eligible to avail of fall scholarship awards

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

More and more students are seeking financial assistance for their college expenses based on the latest records of the CNMI Scholarship Office, which saw a significant growth in its number of applicants this semester.

Scholarship Office administrator Rose S. Pangelinan disclosed to *Saipan Tribune* that a total of 928 students have applied for the government's Educational Assistance Program and the Honors Scholarship Program for fall 2013.

This is a large increase from fall 2012's total, which saw 619 eligible applicants for both the EAP and Honors scholarship programs.

Records show that for school year 2013-2014, there were a total of 363 new student scholars composed of 251 from the Northern Marianas College and 112 enrolled in off-island universities and colleges.

The number of ongoing students who were also approved for grants rose to 401 this new semester, of which 231 are enrolled at NMC, 146 are studying in off-island colleges and universities, and 24 eligible applicants that remain undecided.

Still under EAP, Pangelinan said a total 134 are returning students. Of this number, 74 are from NMC, 58 are studying off island, and two remain undecided.

Saipan Tribune learned that of the 928 eligible students, about 40 continue to avail of the Honors scholarship awards. That program has stopped accepting new applicants after the expiration of the sunset provision that created the program. Pursuant to Public Law 14-37, the CNMI Scholarship Office can only offer the Honors scholarship program through December 2012.

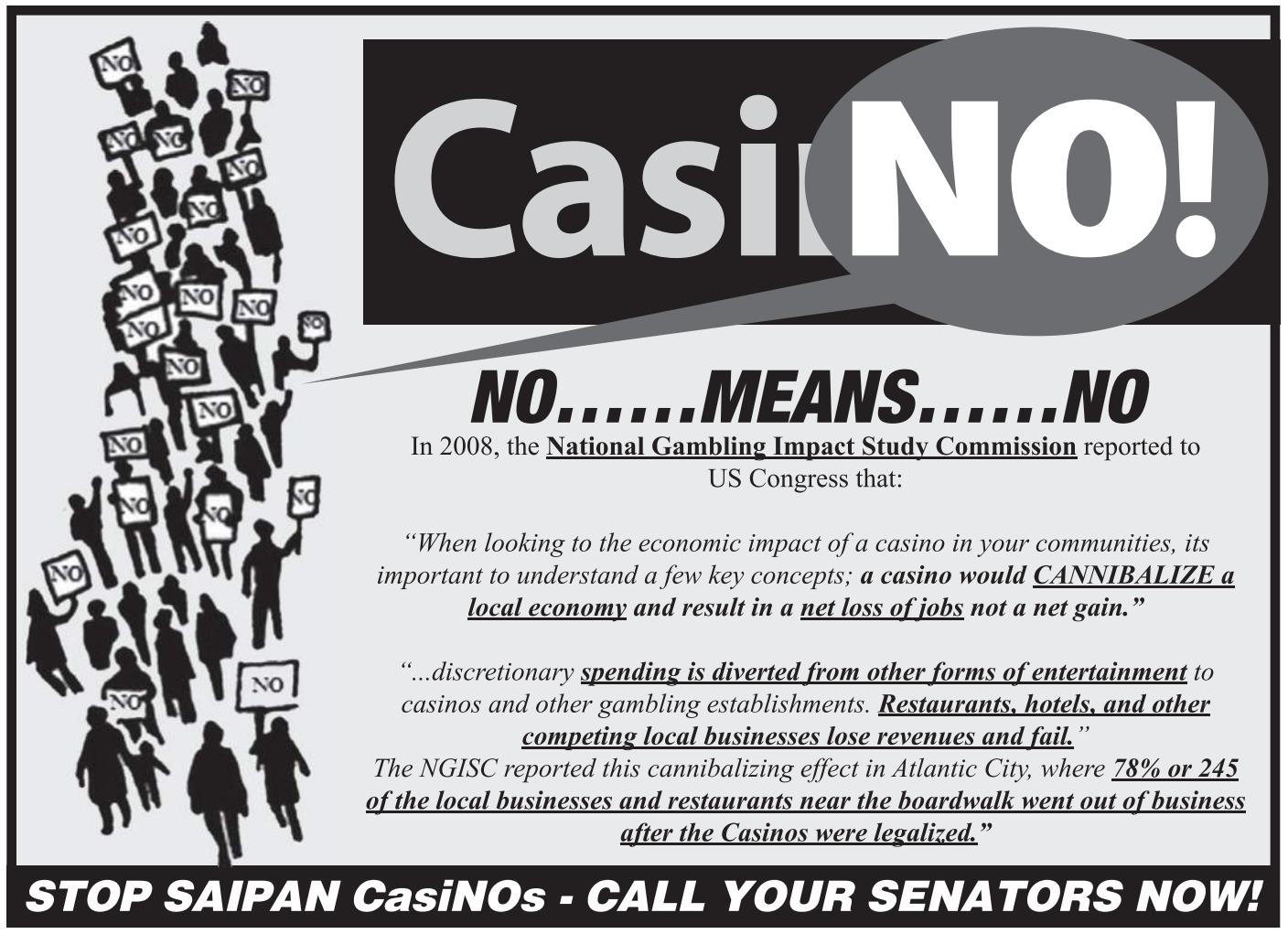
The CNMI Scholarship Office continues to fund the ongoing Honors students until the end of their courses and programs. *Saipan Tribune* learned that majority of Honors recipients are completing their degrees in off-island universities and colleges.

Under the EAP program, eligible applicants receive $1,050 per semester if they are pursuing their studies outside the Commonwealth. For EAP recipients enrolled at NMC, the financial assistance amounts to $908 per school year.

The existing Honors scholarship awards provides 43 recipients up to $15,000 based on the student's "unmet" needs.

Pangelinan is unsure yet if the same amounts will be given this new academic term because awards are always contingent on the budget that will be provided to the program.

The budget for fiscal year 2014 remains pending at the Legislature. In fiscal year 2013, the budget for the two scholarship programs totaled $1.6 million.


CasiNO!
NO.....MEANS.....NO
In 2008, the National Gambling Impact Study Commission reported to US Congress that:
"When looking to the economic impact of a casino in your communities, its important to understand a few key concepts; a casino would CANNIBALIZE a local economy and result in a net loss of jobs not a net gain."
"...discretionary spending is diverted from other forms of entertainment to casinos and other gambling establishments. Restaurants, hotels, and other competing local businesses lose revenues and fail."
The NGISC reported this cannibalizing effect in Atlantic City, where 78% or 245 of the local businesses and restaurants near the boardwalk went out of business after the Casinos were legalized."
STOP SAIPAN CasiNOs - CALL YOUR SENATORS NOW!

What should high school seniors know about credit, identity theft?

HAGATNA, Guam—With community-wide discussion about government borrowing and identity theft, local bankers will head to Guam's high schools to discuss the prudent use of credit and important recommendations to protect confidential financial information.

Leading the nation's 10th Annual "Get Smart About Credit Day," dozens of bankers and volunteers, organized by Bank of Guam, will visit graduating seniors at Guam's schools to talk about credit, how best to manage debt and how to protect important identity information.

Last year, nine schools were visited by dozens of volunteers from Bank of Guam, Citibank, Bank of Hawaii, the Association of Government Accountants, and the Guam Legislature.

Interested school representatives should contact Kebrina Duenas at (671) 472-5236, email at kebrina.duenas@bankofguam.com or fax at (671) 477-6796. ***(PR)***

Public transpo feasibility study to take off this week

The Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority held a competitive bidding process to select a consultant to undertake a transit feasibility study. This has led to the selection of the transit consulting firm, Transit Consulting Network of Ontario, Canada, to investigate the feasibility of operating fixed-flex route and paratransit systems. The study objective is to determine whether—under what conditions and at what cost—public transportation can be introduced, operated, and sustained on Saipan and, eventually, on Rota and Tinian.

Funding for the study is being provided by the U.S. Federal Transit Administration.

The project was launched on July 23, 2013, and is well underway in preparation for a series of townhall meetings from Aug. 22 to 28. A website is also being developed for the public to access information about the study and to provide ongoing input.

Transit Consulting Network will be undertaking a series of informal Transit Focus Groups and meetings from Aug. 22 through Aug. 28, which will involve members of the general public, transit customers, social agencies, existing service providers, the businesses community, political representatives, and senior staff. Following this, a web-based survey will be made available to the public. To ensure all residents have an opportunity to provide input, surveys will be also made available in paper form.

Based on the input received from all the stakeholders and best practices of other transit systems, service concepts will be developed then shortlisted for further consideration. The public will have another opportunity to participate by reviewing the report recommendations during the week of Oct. 14, 2013, before the final report is submitted in mid-November.

COTA looks forward to this study and working with the communities of Saipan, Tinian and Rota to develop a sustainable public transportation system that will meet resident and business needs today and in the future. ***(COTA)***

AS DEADLINE ENDS

More 2K sign USP4GG petition

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The U.S. Pinoy for Good Government's petition to have CNMI undocumented aliens included in the U.S. House of Representatives' comprehensive immigration bill already has garnered more than 2,000 signatures.

USP4GG Marianas Chapter chair Dr. Celia Lamkin said a total of 2,041 people have signed both the paper and online versions of the petition as its deadline ended last Thursday, Aug. 15.

She said there were several very compelling and touching messages left by those who signed the petition.

"There were three workers who said that they were working in the CNMI legally for 25, 28, and 32 years, respectively, have paid taxes, contributed to the economy of the CNMI, been productive citizens, and they were asking that the U.S. Congress to hear the petition to give them permanent residency or green card without the CW waiting period and even those who have worked legally for five years because we are under the U.S. immigration [system] already."

Lamkin said that a granddaughter of a foreign worker whose father is Chamorro and mother is Filipina said that she cannot fathom until now why her grandmother is still not a permanent resident and she has been working on Saipan for 28 years.

The USP4GG petition also attracted the support of former Philippine Consul General Wilfredo Maximo, USP4GG legal counsel and spokesperson attorney Ted Laguatan, European Network of Filipino in Diaspora chair Gene Alcantara, as well as other supporters from Guam and the U.S. mainland.

"It is heartening to know that there are many people from different countries that support our petition," said Lamkin.

She said that Eduardo Navarra, the national chairperson of the National Federation of Filipino American Association, or NaFFAA, has expressed support after she contacted him. "He asked all members all over the states to support the petition."

The U.S. Senate recently passed its versions of a comprehensive immigration bill that included provisions for longtime CNMI workers in the Commonwealth. However, it didn't include undocumented aliens in the measure, even though it seeks to provide a pathway to citizenship to 11 million or so illegal aliens in the U.S. mainland.

Aside from the inclusion of undocumented aliens in the CNMI in the comprehensive immigration bill, USP4GG is also calling for the scrapping of the five-year waiting period as an eligibility requirement for permanent resident status or green card application.

USP4GG's petition urges the U.S. House to consider proposed amendments to the Section 2109 of S. 744 and is addressed to House Speaker John Boehner.

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Calvo's SelectCare CNMI-80 Philippines only	$ 65.05	$ 130.10	$ 196.50
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*Some conditions apply

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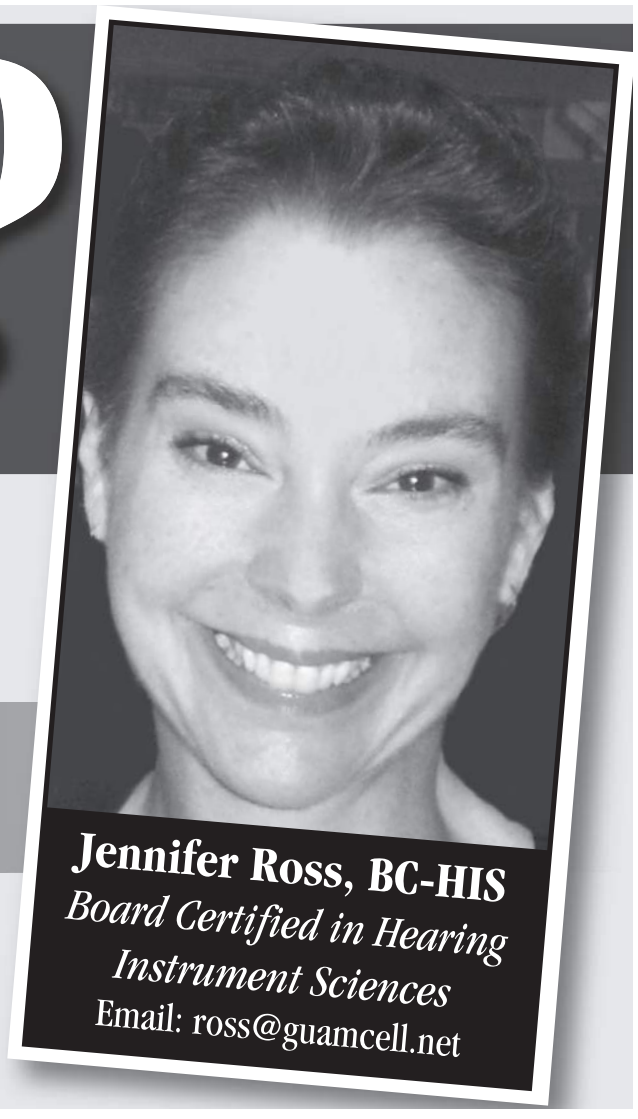
- Custom Communication Devices

- Friday, August 23rd 8:30am - 4:00pm
- Saturday, August 24th 9:00am - 1:00pm

at Marianas Medical Center in Garapan



Jennifer Ross, BC-HIS
Board Certified in Hearing Instrument Sciences
Email: ross@guamcell.net

Ross Hearing Aids

All interested patients should call Marianas Medical Clinic for scheduling
234-3925/7
Insurance accepted: AETNA and Medicaid

TOUR OF CUTTER
Comedians Daniel Dugar, Gary Owen, and Rodney Perry stop by Sector Guam and take a tour of Coast Guard cutter *Assatague* and Station Apra Harbor. On Aug. 13, Dugar, Owen, and Perry got an opportunity to visit three Coast Guard units and learn a bit more about what the Coast Guard does in Guam. The three men made a stop at Naval Base Guam, where Sector Guam is a tenant command, as part of the Daniel Dugar's "B4 They Made You Laugh" tour. Later that evening, the three men put on a free show for the military members and families that work and live aboard Naval Base Guam.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SHRM's Aug. 29 meeting to feature Inos

The CNMI community has undergone many difficulties and changes during this past year and faces even more challenges in the months and years to come. Healthcare, immigration, local workforce development, tourist security, and the economy, the economy, and the economy are only a few of the serious human resource management and business issues occupying the front pages of newspapers and the minds of the Commonwealth's leaders and community members.

The Northern Marianas Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management is pleased to welcome Gov. Eloy S. Inos to address these issues and others at the society's Aug. 29, 2013, general membership meeting. Recognizing the wide range of significant issues and possible topics, the governor has been invited to speak from an open agenda. Inos will be accompanied by selected members of his Cabinet and will accept questions following his presentation, dependent upon his schedule and the time available. The society greatly appreciates the governor taking time from his schedule to meet and speak with our members.

This special meeting is open to the public and will be held in Charley's Cabaret at the Pacific Islands Club on Thursday, Aug. 29, 2013, from 11:30am to 1:30pm.

The presentation includes lunch at a cost of $20 for SHRM members and $30 for non-members. Seats are limited, so make your reservation early by contacting Malou Jardinero at 234-6601 local 621/622 or e-mail her at malou_jardinero@tanholdings.com. ***(SHRM)***

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB13-DPW/SWMD-156

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: AUGUST 28, 2013
TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF FOUR (4) DESKTOP COMPUTERS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS – SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE GOVERNMENT RESEVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/S/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT
Life is full of misses and hits. Sometimes you make it, sometimes you don't. Sometimes you hit the biggest home run in your life, but there is no better feeling in the world than waking up the next morning and having to play again. Life is like that, every day is a new chance, a new day, a new game, another chance to make it matter! Happy birthday, Jakey! We love you so much! May God bless you today and always! Love always, Mommy and Daddy Audie.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Department of Community and Cultural Affairs
Office of the Secretary
Caller Box 10007
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950
Tel. (670) 664-2587 • Fax. (670) 664-2547

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Division of Historic Preservation Office under the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs hereby give notice that a regular meeting of the Historic Preservation Review Board will be held on August 23, 2013 at 12:00 p.m. at the Office on Aging "Man'amko Center".

The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:

AGENDA

I PRELIMINARY MATTERS
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes

II PUBLIC COMMENTS

III REPORTS
1. Secretary's Report
2. Field Reports (Saipan/Tinian/Rota)

IV OLD BUSINESS
1. Section 106 Military Development/Responses
2. Recommendations from Board on Section 106 Communications

V NEW BUSINESS
1. Budget FY 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013
2. Policy Matters
3. Appointment of Special Advisory Committee
4. Board Trainings Re: Section 106 "Essential & Advanced Courses"

VI OTHER MATTERS
1. Reports on New Proposal on Military Development on Tinian and Pagan
2. Proposed Projects on Fiscal Year 2013 Budget
3. Discussion on Signage/Fencing on Established Historical Sites (Rota-Water Cave)
4. Miscellaneous

VII ADJOURNMENT

/s/ Tom Glenn A. Quitugua
Chairman of the Board

Full time position available for our Saipan branch. Applicant must have good knowledge of personal computers. Position involves installing software, diagnosing common problems and also includes customer service. We can train the right applicant!

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Computer Tech

Requirements:
• US permanent resident
• Must be able to lift 50 lbs
• Friendly and self-motivated
• Excellent communication skills
• Dependable transportation

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

August 19, 2005

Veto override is defeated
With two votes short of the needed three-fourths approval, the attempt to override the governor's veto of the proposed repeal of the fuel surcharge fee was defeated, 10-6, during a session at the House of Representatives yesterday. The motion to reverse the governor's decision needed 12 "yes" votes to pass the chamber. Those who voted "yes" were political opposition lawmakers led by House Speaker Benigno R. Fitial, Vice Speaker Timothy P. Villagomez, Reps. Heinz S. Hofschneider, David Apatang, Jesus Attao, Oscar M. Babauta, Juan Lizama, Clyde Norita, Crispin Ogo, and Justo Quitugua.

Power bills remain on the balance
In an apparent attempt to be rid of an issue that could affect their chances in the November elections, lawmakers took turns yesterday pushing their own proposals on how to solve the fuel surcharge fee problem. Of at least five pending fuel surcharge-related measures, the House of Representatives approved one, defeated a veto override, and passed one on first reading. The House passed on first reading House Bill 14-362, authored by Vice Speaker Timothy P. Villagomez, which aims to increase CUC's electricity rates, repeal the fuel surcharge, and defer the $45 million outstanding loan of CUC with the Commonwealth Development Authority.

August 19, 2006

Furlough notices cancelled
Government employees who received furlough notices can now breathe a sigh of relief after Gov. Benigno R. Fitial rescinded yesterday his previous directive authorizing a 30-day furlough of civil service personnel. Fitial made the cancellation of the planned furlough next month after he signed yesterday Senate Bill 15-51 into Public Law 15-24, which was amended by the Legislature to include a provision "requesting" the governor to rescind the furlough notices issued to government employees last month. Fitial signed Directive 257 yesterday, rescinding Directive 256, which he issued on July 14, notifying some government employees holding non-critical positions to go on a furlough for 30 days effective next month.

'Traditional healers should be part of public health'
Traditional healers in the CNMI should have a place in the Commonwealth Public Health Services, according to the organizers of the successfully held Traditional Healing and Medicine Symposium yesterday. Lino Olopai, a Carolinian author and one of the organizing members, said that traditional healers should be part of public health services as they also play a vital role in curing the sick in the community dating all the way back to ancient times in the Pacific. "Healers should be included and part of our public health services and work hand in hand so patients can have options," said Olopai.

August 19, 2007

Tribune's Donato chosen for Sasakawa fellowship
Three senior reporters have been chosen for the incoming class of the 2007 Sasakawa Pacific Islands Journalism Fellowship and one of them is *Saipan Tribune*'s Agnes Donato, who covers the political, aviation, and tourism beats for the paper. Donato follows in the footsteps of another *Saipan Tribune* reporter, Liberty Dones, who was chosen as last year's fellow. The Fellowship gives regional journalists the opportunity to develop a series of stories focused on Japan while based in that country and working one-on-one with a senior professional.

NMI founding father opposes federalization
A CNMI founding father has spoken against the proposed federal takeover of local immigration, even as he acknowledged the right of the U.S. Congress to do so. Vicente N. Santos, vice chairman of the Northern Marianas Political Status Commission, said this is the "worst possible time" to impose the federal immigration system to the Commonwealth. He also raised strong opposition to the proposal to grant what he referred to as "permanent residency status" to long-term guest workers in the islands. "Because of the economic situation prevailing in the CNMI right now, I ask the U.S. Congress not to federalize the CNMI's immigration system at this time," Santos wrote in a statement submitted to the U.S. House Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, which held the first congressional hearing in the CNMI on Wednesday.

Translations of this Notice in the Chamorro and Carolinian languages are available at http://www.nmiretirement.com.

If you have any questions about this notice please contact Class Counsel, Bronster Hoshibata at:
1-855-494-3805 (toll-free) (available from August 23, 2013) or 1-808-524-5644

NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

You are receiving this Notice because you may be a member of the Northern Mariana Retirement Fund Defined Benefit Plan ("NMIRF"). Plaintiff Betty Johnson has sued the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana on behalf a proposed class of members ("Class Members") in the United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands (the "Court"). Plaintiff alleges the CNMI has failed to pay the amounts that it was required by law to pay to the NMIRF since 2005. As a result, the NMIRF will run out of money as soon as June 2014 and will no longer be able to pay you any retirement benefits.

Plaintiff has agreed to a proposed settlement with the CNMI and other Defendants including ELOY S. INOS, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands ("CNMI"); NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS RETIREMENT FUND ("CNMI Fund"); The TRUSTEE AD LITEM for the CNMI Fund, the CNMI GOVERNMENT; the NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS RETIREMENT FUND BOARD OF TRUSTEES; the CNMI DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE; ADELINA C. ROBERTO, CNMI Fund Trustee and Vice Chairwoman; NACRINA BARINAS, CNMI Fund Trustee; RICHARD S. VILLAGOMEZ, CNMI Fund Administrator; LARISSA LARSON, Secretary of the CNMI DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE; COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION ("CHC"); PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM ("PSS"); the NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE ("NMC") and the NMIRF subject to preliminary and final approval . The settlement will make sure Class Members will continue to receive at least 75% of their benefits in the future subject to some risks described below. The CNMI has agreed as part of the Settlement that in the future it will not pay any retirees who optout of this Settlement a higher percentage of their benefits than the Settlement will provide to those retirees who are in the Settlement, so there is no reason to expect to get more retirement benefits in the future by opting out.

The Settlement will also enable the CNMI to pay approximately $52 million in contributions to current government employees who have requested them. Such refunds will be paid to members who have requested or elected to withdraw from the Defined Benefit Plan in two stages. The first stage will be paid pro-rata from a $10,000,000 sum set aside by the NMIRF and the second stage of the remaining balance due to the withdrawing members will be paid, but after entry of Order of Final Approval of the Settlement and legislative action approving the Settlement Agreement, but before the Settlement Fund is created. The total assets of the NMIRF remaining after the first and second payments will then be paid over in their entirety to a Settlement Fund being created by this Settlement, which will not be reduced. The Settlement Fund created with assets from the NMIRF will have no obligation to make any payments to members electing to withdraw from the Defined Benefit Plan. If the Settlement is not approved, the NMIRF will run out of money about June 2014 and be unable to continue to make any benefit payments, and the Plaintiff will contest the legality of the refunds in the Court, so they will be delayed or cancelled.

The Court authorized this notice and will hold a hearing on September 30, 2013 to determine whether the settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate. Class Members will be bound by the settlement unless they exclude themselves.

WHO IS INCLUDED?

All persons who on August 6, 2013 are members of the Defined Benefit Plan of the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund or persons who are entitled to survivor's benefits of such members; provided the person did not execute and deliver to the CNMI Fund a timely Election to
Terminate.

WHAT IS THE LAWSUIT ABOUT?

The lawsuit alleges that since 2005, the CNMI has failed to make the contributions it was required by law to make to the NMIRF and, therefore, the NMIRF does not have enough money to pay Class Members their constitutionally guaranteed benefits.

WHAT DOES THE SETTLEMENT PROVIDE THE CLASS MEMBERS?

If approved, the settlement will create a Settlement Fund under the control of the Court into which all assets of the NMIRF Defined Benefit Plan will be paid and to which the CNMI will be required to make annual payments sufficient to enable the Settlement Fund to pay Class Members at least 75% of their benefits subject to the risks described herein. If the CNMI fails to make its annual payments, the Court may enforce a Consent Judgment for the full amount of money the CNMI owes the Class Members. The Consent Judgment will be about $779,000,000. The CNMI has agreed to pay Class Counsel's attorneys fees and costs to the date of Final Approval in addition to its annual payments and Class Members benefits will not be reduced to pay Class Counsel for their work prior to Final Approval. If the Consent Judgment must be enforced, legal fees and costs will be incurred to enforce it, but these will only be collected out of money recovered enforcing it as approved by the Court. If the CNMI fails to make its minimum annual payments there may be delays or reductions in benefits paid to Settlement Class Members.

WHAT ELSE DOES THE SETTLEMENT PROVIDE?

The Settlement also provides that the NMIRF will pay approximately $52,000,000. First, the NMIRF will pay $10,000,000 after entry of Preliminary Approval. Next the NMIRF will pay approximately $42,000,000 after Final Approval. This money will be used to pay refunds of contributions to current government employees who have requested to leave the NMIRF. If the Settlement does not happen, Plaintiff will challenge the legality of refund payments in the Court and they will be delayed or never happen.

WHAT ARE YOUR OTHER OPTIONS?

If you do not want to be legally bound by the settlement, you must opt out by September 20, 2013. If you opt out, you cannot get relief from this settlement. And if more than 10% of the Settlement Class Members opt out, the Settlement will be cancelled and benefits payments will stop as soon as June 2014 and refunds will be delayed or cancelled.

If you opt out of the Settlement Class by making a timely and valid request for exclusion, you will never be allowed to make a claim to benefits from the Settlement Fund, or any claim against the Trustee of the Settlement Fund, his attorneys, the professionals of the Fund and the Fund's agents and employees. If you try to file such a claim you may be held in contempt of court and required to pay legal fees. By virtue of this settlement, approximately $100 Million of the NMIRF assets are being paid to the Settlement Fund for the sole and exclusive benefit of the Settlement Class Members. If you opt out and elect not to be a Settlement Class Member, then you will not be entitled to any payment from the Settlement Fund, and by virtue of the Orders of the Federal District Court, you will be precluded from forever making any claim against it, the Settlement Class Members or the Trustee. Your sole recourse and remedy will be against the CNMI Government. You should consult counsel before making any decision to opt out so that you can assess the benefits that you are renouncing by doing so.

If you are a member of the Settlement Class, any further employee or employer contributions which are required to be made will be made to the Settlement Fund. If you opt out of the Class, any further employee or employer contribution will be treated as determined by the CNMI Government, not the Settlement Fund. To opt out, you must deliver a written notice of your desire to opt–out. The notice must clearly identify you by including your name, address and date of birth, and your original signature. The Notice must be delivered on or before 5:00 p.m. on September 20, 2013 to the Trustee Ad Litem for the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund at:

NMIRF
P.O. Box 501247
Saipan, MP 96910

You must insure actual delivery to the NMIRF on or before 5:00 p.m. on September 20, 2013, and it shall not be sufficient to show that your request for exclusion was postmarked, mailed or otherwise sent before that date.

YOUR RIGHT TO OBJECT

If you remain a Settlement Class Member and you do not opt out, and if you wish to take advantage of the benefits attendant to participating in the Settlement Class, but believe that the settlement negotiated by the Parties is unfair or otherwise objectionable, and wish to object to the Settlement negotiated by the Parties, you have a right to object to the settlement, but you must do so in writing before September 16, 2013, by filing your objection with the Clerk of Court, United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, 2nd Floor, Horiguchi Building, 123 Kopa Di Oru Street, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950. You must also mail your objection to:

Class Counsel
Bronster Hoshibata
1003 Bishop Street, Suite 2300
Honolulu HI 96813 USA

Counsel for the CNMI
Office of the Attorney General
Caller Box 10007
Capital Hill, Saipan
Northern Mariana Islands 96950

Trustee Ad Litem of the NMIRF
Joseph C. Razzano
Civille and Tang, PLLC
330 Hernan Cortez Ave., Ste. 200
Hagatna Guam 96910

You also have the right to appear in person or by counsel at the Settlement and Fairness Hearing scheduled on September 30, 2013, at which time the Court will determine the fairness of the Settlement. You need not file a written Objection in order to appear and object. Your Objection will be heard by the Court and ruled upon. If the Court denies your Objection, you have the right to an appeal. If your Objection is denied and that denial is affirmed on appeal, you will remain a Settlement Class Member and be bound by all the terms of the Settlement.

THE FAIRNESS HEARING.

The Court will hold a hearing to consider whether to approve the settlement. The hearing will take place at 9:00 a.m. on September 30, 2013 in the United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, First Floor, Horiguchi Building, 123 Kopa Di Oru Street, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950. You may appear at the hearing, but you do not have to.

RISKS

The CNMI has agreed as part of the Settlement that in the future it will not pay any retirees who opt-out of this Settlement a higher percentage of their benefits than the Settlement will provide to those retirees who are in the Settlement, so there is no reason to expect to get more retirement benefits in the future by opting out.

While it is anticipated that this Settlement which will consist of a transfer of assets from the NMIRF and payments by the CNMI of contributions, so that members will receive at least 75% of their benefits in the future, there are two risks which may affect the anticipated benefits.

First, market or market conditions may deteriorate and compromise the body of the assets being transferred to the Settlement Fund by the NMIRF, or the anticipated earnings thereon, thus affecting anticipated benefits. For example, a depression or recession may result in losses to the Settlement Fund. There are other unanticipated and presently unknowable risks which may develop in the future which may also result in the assets of the Settlement Fund being lost or compromised. Second, a risk exists that your Settlement benefits may not be timely paid or paid in full in the event that the CNMI Government fails to satisfy its defined schedule of payment obligations and Class Counsel must enforce the Consent Judgment in order to compel the Government to pay. Finally, Settlement Class Members who later seek a refund of contributions from the Settlement Fund will only be entitled to 75% refund benefit.

DEADLINES

Date	Event
August 20, 2013	Mailing and Publication of Notice
September 10, 2013	Plaintiff Will File Motions for Approval of Attorney Fees and Costs and for a Service Payment to Plaintiff
September 16, 2013	Deadline to File Objections
September 20, 2013	Requests for Exclusion Must be Delivered to the CNMI Fund
September 20, 2013	CNMI Will File a Response to Plaintiff's Motion for Approval of Attorney Fees and Costs
September 25, 2013	Motion for Final Approval to be Filed by Class Counsel
September 27, 2013	Plaintiff Will File Reply in Support of Motion for Approval of Attorney Fees and Costs and for a Service Payment to Plaintiff
September 30, 2013	Hearing on Motion for Final Approval and Motion for Attorneys Fees, Costs and Incentive Award

HOW DO I LEARN MORE?

The formal Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement ("Agreement"), available at http://www.nmiretirement.com describes all of the details about the proposed settlement. **This notice is only a summary of the settlement terms. If there is any conflict between this notice and the terms of the Agreement, the Agreement will control.** The Agreement and other case documents may also be reviewed at the Office of the Clerk, located at United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, 2nd Floor, Horiguchi Building, 123 Kopa Di Oru Street, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950.

IF YOU DO NOTHING YOU WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE SETTLEMENT AND YOU WILL BE ENTITLED TO 75% OF YOUR BENEFITS TO BE PAID IN THE FUTURE SUBJECT TO THE RISKS DESCRIBED ABOVE.

IF YOU OPT OUT OF THE SETTLEMENT YOU WILL RECEIVE NOTHING UNDER THIS SETTLEMENT AND CLASS COUNSEL WILL NOT REPRESENT YOU. YOU MAYASSERT YOUR RIGHTS TO TRY TO MAKE THE CNMI PAY YOUR BENEFITS BUT YOU WILL HAVE TO HIRE YOUR OWN LAWYER AT YOUR OWN EXPENSE IF YOU WANT A LAWYER TO REPRESENT YOU.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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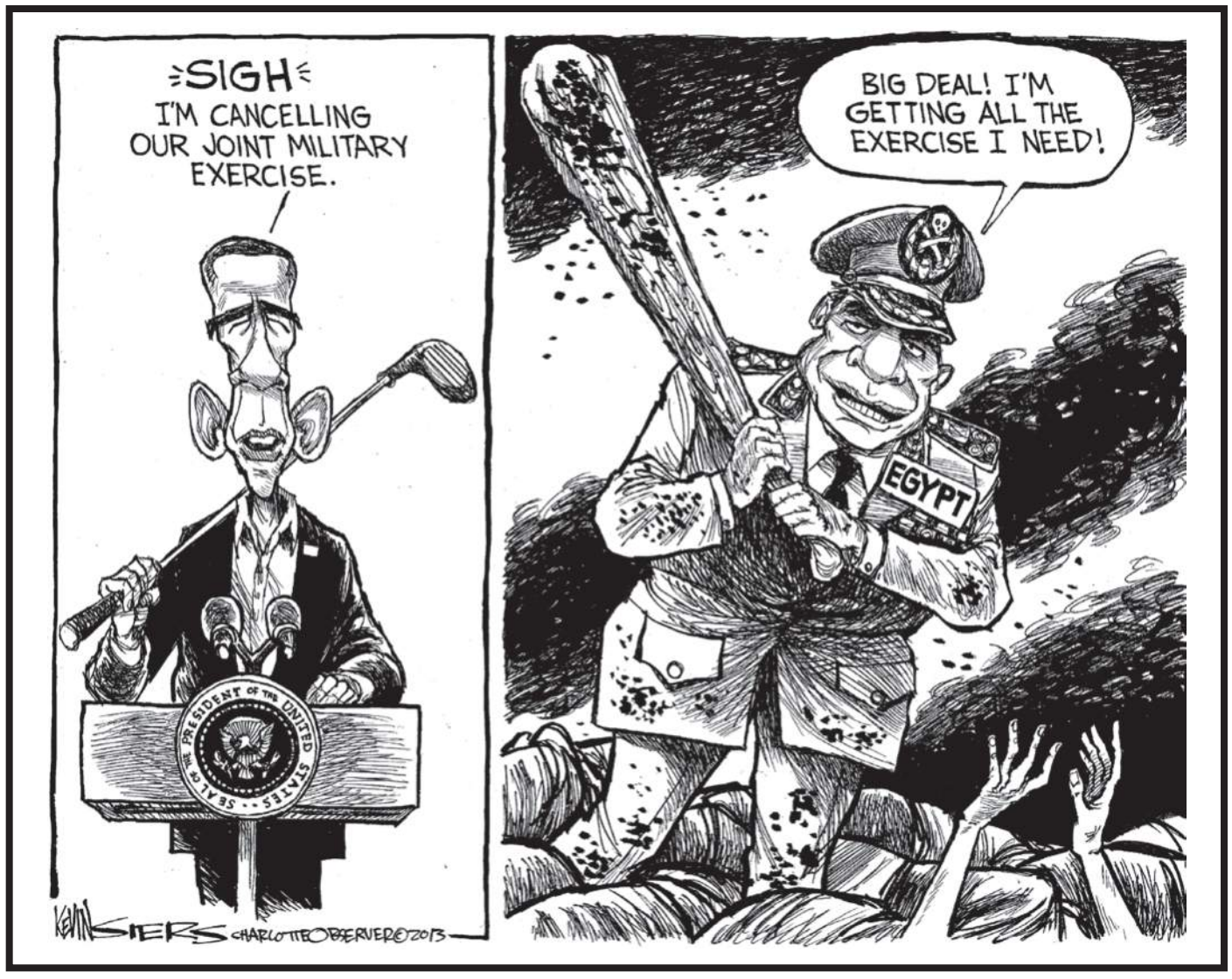
SIGH
I'M CANCELLING OUR JOINT MILITARY EXERCISE.
BIG DEAL! I'M GETTING ALL THE EXERCISE I NEED!
EGYPT
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No winners in Egypt's chaotic violence

By FRIDA GHITIS
The Miami Herald

Frida Ghitis writes about global affairs for The Miami Herald*. Readers may send her email at fjghitis@gmail.com.*

It's nothing short of heartbreaking to remember those heady moments of early 2011, when hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions of Egyptians converged on Tahrir Square and stunned even themselves by ending a three-decade-old dictatorship.

Gone are the illusions of unity and brotherhood. Gone are the dreams of a smooth, relatively peaceful transition to a democratic system that would make Egyptians proud of their country and command admiration from the rest of the world.

Today, the blood-soaked streets of Cairo are a testament to tragedy. The images from the Egyptian capital bring to mind the final scene of a violent video game, where the last remaining survivor stands amid the rubble surveying the destruction. But there is one difference.

There are no winners in Egypt today. None.

The military under Gen. Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi has the upper hand, but he and the uniformed corps he leads are hardly the winners. On Aug. 14—Black Wednesday—the military moved in to dismantle a massive sit-in by supporters of the Muslim Brotherhood, who were futilely demanding the reinstatement of former President Mohammed Morsi. We will never know how many were killed that day. The Muslim Brotherhood says security forces killed thousands of its supporters and wounded more than 10,000. The government says the dead amounted to several hundred, more than 40 of them security forces. The pictures from that awful day tell a terrible story.

The military has blood on its hands. It has reimposed the hated state of emergency of the dictatorship, banning all demonstrations, further eroding its claim to democratic legitimacy. The Muslim Brotherhood is hardly free of blame.

The Brotherhood will now maximize the event's potential for victimhood as a rallying cry in the group's blend of theological and practical strategies in the long-game quest to revive the Islamist caliphate. But nobody would be foolish enough to think the Brotherhood has emerged strengthened. No one would claim the Islamists are winners after the events of the last two years.

The Brotherhood's leader, Morsi, turned out to be a disastrous president. His incompetence, however, was not the main problem with his turbulent year as president. Morsi and the Brotherhood showed they could win elections, but they also demonstrated they could not be trusted.

The Muslim Brotherhood lunged at power greedily, alienating any Egyptian who was not a fervent supporter. Democracy looked like a path to theocracy. Egyptians will never again give them the benefit of the doubt. And now the Brotherhood is on the run again, its leaders in prison or in hiding. It will likely return underground and even resort to terrorism. Protracted civil conflict will be a disaster for Egypt.

Also suffering a demoralizing defeat are Egypt's liberals, who proved capable of launching a revolution that succeeded in toppling an entrenched president, but almost immediately lost control of the agenda and then failed to persuade voters to sign on to their vision.

Liberals sought—many still seek—the kind of democracy that would be recognizable in the West, with equal rights for all, protec-

See NO WINNERS on **Next Page**

A journey to Jerusalem

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) is a former PSS teacher and is currently writing from the campus of Shenyang Aerospace University in China.

We write as the second day of the peace talks between the Palestinians and Israel resume after five years of exchanging bullets and literary bombs.

U.S. State Secretary John Kerry is nursing the "peace process" in Israel, which has come to be identified as a U.S.-brokered effort (some will say bought) since its inception. There are actually two components to the negotiations: one is between Israel and members of the Arab world. We are all familiar with the peace accord presided over by Jimmy Carter that led to a Nobel prize for peace for Begin of Israel and Sadat of Egypt in 1978. Sadat was assassinated by his own military men as a result of his perceived betrayal of the Islamic direction of the country.

Israel has since signed peace treaties with Egypt and Jordan. In both cases, the Palestinians were not party to the talks. Consequently, the treaties had less value than the paper it was printed on. At the birth of Erzet-Israel, Syria, Egypt, Transjordan and Iraq, 120 million Arabs looked down on a million Jews fresh from European pogroms and the Holocaust.

The second component is between the Palestinians and Israel. Israel's modus vivendi since the partition has been to establish a stronghold and stay put. The best defense is offense. The Palestinians have pretty much been a pawn of their Arab "protectors," finally blowing the façade of Palestinian-Arab unity when Arafat repudiated Camp David. Arafat's minions have been on a hit-and-run mode ever since, primarily in assigned ghettoes at Gaza (Sunni Hamas-led across the Nile) and the West Bank (Sunni Fatah-led across the Jordan).

To the point: We have here a quarrel between two entities (actually three, now that Shiite Hezbollah based in Lebanon is also in the fray) on Palestinian real estate: Israel that has managed to stay afloat with its successful armaments program, and the Palestinians in full disarray. However, there is a consensus that there will be two states; the contention is where the boundary lines are drawn.

I just thought the reader might want to have a murky picture of the region's politics. And we have not touched Israel's Zion yet!

Our reflection is actually on the phrase "journey to Jerusalem," a metaphor that guided our reading of the New Testament, with Jesus at 12 visiting with his parents, and his final entry that led to the hill of Calvary in Golgotha, now the site of the Church of the Sepulcher in the Christian quarter of the Old City, where the more liberal segment of the Christian Church thinks his body was buried since the resurrection is obviously a matter of the spirit.

Our childhood Sunday school stories actually began with the Promised Land of Joshua crossing the Jordan after wandering in the desert a full generation from the dramatic exodus out of Egypt. The whole account is a marvel of storytelling that establish the Torah, and led to the substantive meaning of the Holy Land.

We now take that in our demythologizing of the sacred as an affirmation of the sanctity of space, very easily in 2013 for those on the ecology movement, beyond the confines of real estate in the Levant to the whole planet Earth itself. I sit in a culture that spawned the *feng shui,* hardly taken seriously in the details but still command solemn respect in the same way that the number 13 is avoided in the West and the fourth floor is non-existent among some Sino apartelles.

The Holy Land was quickly demythologized for me when our Methodist bishop's wife returned from a visit with vials of water taken from the River Jordan, and she was handing it out as a prized possession to the wives of pastors. My mother, to her credit, avoided the superstitious frenzy.

But the journey to Jerusalem is everyone's undertaking, to define the features of one's identity (who do you say you are?), the resolves of one's vocation (what do you intend to do with it?), and the choices of lifestyle (will you grow out of dependence to be free?).

The Journey to the West is one of China's four classical literary novels written during the introspective Ming dynasty of a monk's journey to India, with three trusted friends, to retrieve some Buddhist sutras. The West has decided to treat the piece as children's literature, dubbing the story as the travels of the Monkey King! But the frolicking adventure is also an allegory of the inner journeys of the various participants.

The Journey to the East is Herman Hesse's allegorical search for identity, vocation, and lifestyle that struck a chord since the '60s and ends in one of the best statements of mystical wisdom in contemporary literature. The character Leo's leadership as a servant has entered the language of corporate identity, vocation, and management style!

The account of the journey to Jerusalem has been going on since the aging Abraham and Sarah uprooted from Mesopotamia to a promised land. To paraphrase American immigrant Carlos Bulosan: *Jerusalem is in the heart!*

In our time, the human journey to the center, the worldwide Jewish cry of "next year in Jerusalem," has become nothing less than embracing the sanctity of the planet itself. Journey on!

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Weak US foreign policy

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John S. DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section*

Obama's creepy policy of authoritarianism—a political system of dictatorship—shredding the Constitution at will is bad all around for the country. His legacy is doomed!

Why am I fearful of the unfolding phenomena in D.C.? It looks like Obama is determined to institute policy decisions, unilaterally ignoring the constitutional authority of Congress to legislate. It ensures a system of checks and balance. But he's bent on shredding the Constitution where it meets inconvenience with his political agenda.

He's used the IRS to go after his political enemies and the NSA for the same purpose. This is in violation of citizens' rights to privacy enumerated under the U.S. Constitution.

While Obama has fancy-footed with the killing of Osama bin Laden and the al-Qaida being dispersed, he ignores the fact that it is a religious-based group and a hard nut to crack, no matter the measures taken against them. They're ready to die for their beliefs. Al-Qaida continues to mutate silently.

The president has got to have better foreign policy with real command and control over luring our enemies to sleeping in our own bed. His bouts with redundancy, futility, and incompetence definitely needs major overhaul, if it isn't a bit too late already.

He also had a law approved to go after large U.S. entrepreneurs doing business in foreign countries. The law is so embarrassing, a lot of the businessmen have renounced their citizenship to avoid being victimized by Obama's targeting of the top 1 percent of wealthy folks who've worked and earned their dues. In short, most have gone Galt.

Stealth regulations

Americans across the fruited plain elect some 535 representatives and senators to Congress—435 in the House, 100 in the Senate—to consider national policies for the entire country.

Legislation approved by Congress heads to the president for his consideration. If he signs it, it becomes federal law that is applied equally to all 50 states and territories of the U.S.

These laws often include the writing of regulations assigned federal agencies. Federal bureaucrats have a free hand in the drafting of these regulations that doesn't require judicial review or legislative oversight. So what's wrong with this scheme?

We never elected federal bureaucrats who literally take command of our lives by the product of the regulations they write and promote as gospel matters to be followed. The cost of regulation is stealth, according to Bob Beauprez, a national columnist. "Seldom does anyone calculate, itemize, post, and publish the actual cost of the myriad rules that control our lives and everything we produce and consume. The cost is just embedded in the price.

"CEI, the Competitive Enterprise Institute, is one of a growing group of organizations that monitors and quantifies the 80,000 or so pages of federal regulations in America. Annually, CEI published an update called The Ten Thousand Commandments. They also provide current updates throughout the year.

"The growing dominance of the federal government over the states has obscured more fundamental changes within the federal government itself: It is not just bigger; it is dangerously off kilter," related Jonathan Turley, a Shapiro professor of public interest law at George Washington University.

"Our carefully constructed system of checks and balances is being negated by the rise of a fourth branch, an administrative state of sprawling departments and agencies that govern with increasing autonomy and decreasing transparency."

Have members lost their "true north" as to allow the gradual surrender of its authority to legislate, surrendering to unelected federal bureaucrats who draft regulations at will? I mean these guys must be enjoying their new power not subject to congressional or judicial review. The manufacturing of regulations has gone volcanic. It consistently feeds upon the creation of government of regulations (administrative state) rather than by laws.

The bankruptcy of the Fund

Since 35 years ago, we had policymakers and a board handling the operations of the Retirement Fund. The former had built the resiliency to skirt their fiduciary responsibilities while the latter spent their time junketing at every opportunity at the expense of retirees.

If both took the time to focus on the impending volcanic-like implosion, the Fund would have moved along, difficult its fiscal posture may be, but removed from the bankruptcy it now faces. For incumbent politicians, it was best to cannibalize its funds than ensure it retains solvency.

Even the court was loaned some $13 million for its building. It now finds itself fiscally incapable to meeting its debt service. If we wish to sue it to secure money owed the Fund, who would listen to our lawsuit? Would the assigned judge be fair by finding a happy medium of repayment or what would the decision be?

And all along I thought we've placed smart people in government to do smart things. But the failure of meeting fiduciary responsibility and fidelity to the rule of law is so far removed from our expectations of doing things right. The Fund is broke and a 25-percent cut is on the way. In its simplest form it's another layer of hardship in bad economic times. *A` Saina pot dios!*

The Inos administration now spouts remitting $25 million to $40 million to the Fund. If it had paid its obligation of $15 million per year since seven years ago, the pile of debt would have been far less.

Proposed measures to scaffold the system have not shed light how it is supposed to ensure the solvency of the Fund. It's one pile of debt over another. It's the pathway to completely shut down the economic freedom of our children.

Interesting the establishment of the program and the persistent inability of policymakers to fund it since 35 years ago. It's now broke, another eventual drain of some $65 million against the local economy when the well runs dry for retirees. It would only hasten a more egregious economic decline to an historic low.

Egypt challenges Obama's Arab Spring philosophy

By JULIE PACE
AP White House Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP)—As Arab Spring democracy uprisings spread across the Middle East, President Barack Obama's response to the political unrest has been to voice support for people seeking representative governments but limit the role the United States will play to shape those efforts.

The president's philosophy of limited engagement is facing perhaps its toughest test in Egypt, where the nation's first democratically elected president was ousted by military forces with deep, decadeslong ties to the U.S.

The White House has refused to declare Mohammed Morsi's removal from power a coup—a step that would require Obama to suspend $1.3 billion in annual aid—even after the military-backed interim government led crackdowns last week that left more than 600 people dead and thousands more injured.

Obama's resistance to suspending U.S. support for Egypt's military leaves the White House with little leverage, effectively relegating the president to the role of a bystander issuing strongly worded statements. The U.S. position has also stirred up anti-American sentiment in Egypt, with Morsi supporters accusing the U.S. of failing to live up to its own democratic values by allowing an elected leader to be pushed aside.

The president insists that the U.S. stands with Egyptians seeking a democratic government. But he says America could not determine Egypt's future and would not "take sides with any political party or political figure."

"I know it's tempting inside of Egypt to blame the United States or the West or some other outside actor for what's gone wrong," Obama said Thursday in remarks from his rented vacation house in Massachusetts on Martha's Vineyard. "We've been blamed by supporters of Morsi. We've been blamed by the other side, as if we are supporters of Morsi."

"That kind of approach will do nothing to help Egyptians achieve the future that they deserve," Obama added.

Steven Cook, a Middle East analyst at the Council on Foreign Relations, said that Obama's "middle-splitting" approach for Egypt undercuts U.S. support for democracy in the region.

"The idea that we can influence the trajectory of the politics is foolish," Cook said. "But to have not been consistent in emphasizing our own values in this situation is a mistake. We should stick to the principles of democracy and recognition for the rule of law."

However, the U.S. relationship with Egypt has long required Washington to ignore the country's repressive politics in exchange for regional stability. For 30 years the U.S. propped up Egyptian autocrat Hosni Mubarak in part to ensure that he maintained Egypt's peace treaty with Israel, one of only two such accords in the Arab world.

But Obama abandoned Mubarak in 2011, when millions of Egyptians took to the streets to demand an end to his rule. Mubarak eventually resigned, clearing the way for Egypt's first democratic elections and inspiring pro-democracy protests in other countries throughout the Middle East and North Africa.

The U.S. has consistently voiced support for the popular uprisings and in some cases demanded that autocratic leaders leave power. In Libya, the U.S. joined with allies to set up a no-fly zone to help opposition forces oust longtime leader Moammar Gahdafi. And in Syria, the U.S. has levied economic sanctions and approved light weaponry for rebels fighting President Bashar Assad's government, though it has done little to stop the civil war that has left more than 100,000 people dead.

But throughout the Arab Spring, the White House has been wary of getting too deeply involved in setting up new governments in the region.

Ben Rhodes, Obama's deputy national security adviser, said the president does not believe it is his role to "engineer a political process."

"The challenge for us is that picking winners and seeking to engineer a solution puts us right in the middle of the situation and ultimately makes the U.S. the issue," Rhodes said.

The president's approach was shaped in part by his opposition to the Iraq War, a conflict that was first built as an anti-terrorism campaign but became a U.S.-led exercise in democracy-building. Obama oversaw the end of the war in his first term and has since tried to keep the war weary, economically strapped U.S. out of other lengthy foreign conflicts.

Obama's philosophy is also driven in part by concerns that the governments formed after the Arab Spring uprisings may be more detrimental to American interests than the autocratic regimes they replace.

Before Morsi's ouster, U.S. officials were worried that the Egyptian leader fit into that category. A senior leader of the Muslim Brotherhood, Morsi was accused of giving the Islamist political movement undue influence in the government after he took power. Egyptians also blamed him for failing to make good on promised economic reforms.

The military removed Morsi from power last month following massive street protests that drew comparisons to the demonstrations that ousted Mubarak in 2011. The military has promised to roll back Morsi's Islamist constitution and hold free elections next year.

NO WINNERS

From Page 10

tions for minorities, free press, free expression, rule of law.

Egyptian minorities stand in the middle. Dozens of Coptic Christian churches were torched by Islamists, but security forces did nothing to protect them.

Now Egypt is again under martial law. The civilian government was chosen by the generals. Television stations have been shut down, out-of-favor political leaders fear for their freedom, even their lives. Nobody has won.

On the losing side of the ledger we must add the United States, which handled the Egyptian uprising very badly and managed to come out of the crisis with all sides against it. Everyone is angry at Washington. Gen. al-Sissi says Egyptians won't soon forget American actions. Liberals are angry that the Obama administration didn't oppose the Muslim Brotherhood, the Brotherhood is angry that the United States didn't oppose the overthrow of a democratically elected government.

America did not play its hand well, but don't listen to the chorus of Egyptians claiming this is America's doing. U.S. leaders tried to mediate a way out of the impasse and sought to prevent the killings, which only portend more violence, division and instability.

There is a deeply ingrained tradition in the Arab world of blaming America whenever something goes wrong. Conspiracy theorists will offer endless explanations.

Whatever the U.S. government did wrong, it was the Egyptian people who started their revolution and who then let it get away from them. This is Egypt's disaster; a disaster with no winners. It is now up to the Egyptian people to save their country.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼76°	▲88° ▼76°	▲88° ▼76°	▲88° ▼76°	▲88° ▼76°

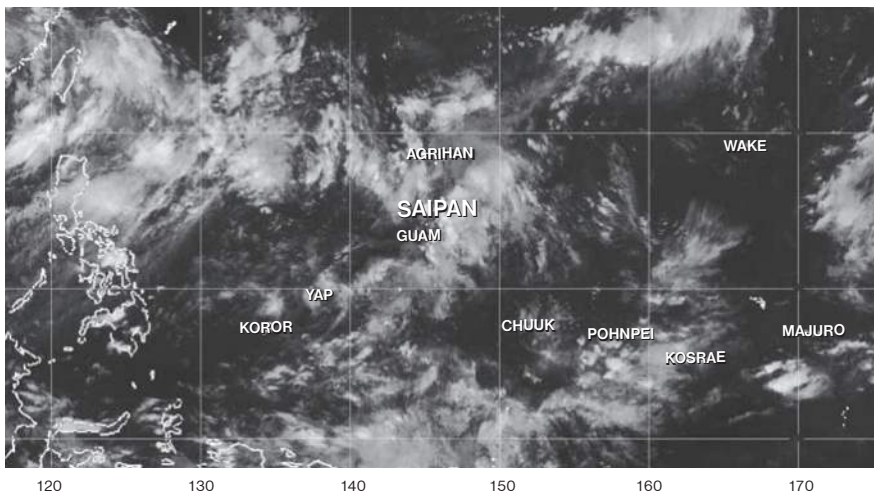
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲88	▼79
Palau	Showers	▲83	▼74
Yap	Showers	▲88	▼76
Chuuk	Showers	▲86	▼77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87	▼75
Kosrae	Showers	▲87	▼75
Majuro	Showers	▲85	▼79

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲61	▼51
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼70
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲88	▼82
Honolulu	Sunny	▲87	▼74
London	Partly Cloudy	▲74	▼55
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲81	▼62
Manila	Thundershowers	▲85	▼79
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲55	▼39
Miami	Thundershowers	▲89	▼80
New York	Cloudy	▲78	▼65
Osaka	Sunny	▲96	▼80
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲73	▼51
Pusan	Sunny	▲88	▼78
Rome	Sunny	▲90	▼70
Salem	Sunny	▲85	▼59
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲65	▼57
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	▲88	▼77
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	▲93	▼80
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲78	▼69

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, AUGUST 18, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Storm Pewa is located near 12N179W. The storm is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms east of Wake Island northeast of a line from 20N173E to 11N180. For more information on Tropical Storm Pewa, see the advisories issued by the Central Pacific Hurricane Center under WMO header WTPA34 PHFO. A monsoon trough stretches east-northeastward from near 22N130E to beyond 25N at 139E. Converging monsoonal winds near and south of the trough are causing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms in a vast area from west of Koror and Yap northeastward to Iwo To Island, the northern CNMI and Minami Tori Shima. This area is north of a line from 7N130E to 23N155E. A weak circulation is centered near Pohnpei at 6N158E. A surface trough extends eastward from the circulation to a weak circulation centered near 5N177E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are associated with this trough over Pohnpei and south of Chuuk within 250 miles of a line from 5N153E to 7N162E. A surface trough runs northward from the circulation to end near 20N156E. The trough is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms well north of Chuuk and Pohnpei within 140 miles of a line from 11N153E to 16N159E. A weak surface trough is triggering isolated thunderstorms east of Guam and Saipan within 65 miles of a line from 7N146E to 15N148E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

12:37 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
5:53 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
1:14 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet
8:05 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:03 AM	6:38 PM
Tuesday	6:03 AM	6:38 PM
Wednesday	6:03 AM	6:37 PM
Thursday	6:03 AM	6:36 PM
Friday	6:04 AM	6:36 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	4:55 AM	3:47 AM
Tuesday	5:47 AM	4:49 AM
Wednesday	6:36 AM	5:50 AM
Thursday	7:22 AM	6:49 AM
Friday	8:07 AM	7:46 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 10, 2013

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
0Z1077	4:50am	7:10am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)			
DL583	5:50am	8:30am	2, 5, 6
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)			
0Z119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
0Z608	3:10am	6:20am	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
0Z606	2:20am	6:00am	1
0Z606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
0Z612	3:40am	7:20am	Daily
0Z119	4:00am	11:20am	Daily via KIX
0Z604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	4:10am	8:00am	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV)			
SYL9950	6:40pm	1:30am+1	7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
0Z606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
0Z606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	6 via GUM
UA5062/191	4:50am	9:55am	3 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:05pm	Daily via NRT
UA5068/PR111	8:35am	4:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
US5074/PR111	11:20am	4:35pm	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
0Z604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
0Z606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
0Z606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
0Z604/745	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5073	10:00am	10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5062	2:40am	3:15am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	10:10am	10:45am	6
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5062	3:45am	4:20am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	11:15am	11:50am	6
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:30am+1	Daily
0Z1087	10:00pm	2:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6
NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN			
DL582	8:30pm	1:00am+1	1, 4, 5
OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN			
0Z120	9:50pm	2:20am+1	Daily
BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
0Z607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	Daily
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
0Z603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
0Z120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
0Z605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
0Z611	9:10pm	2:40am+1	Daily
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	7:55pm	3:10am+1	4, 7
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN			
SYL9949	12:45pm	5:20pm	7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
PR110/UA5072	7:55am	6:25pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
DL172/288	8:00am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
0Z704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
UA184/5071	11:35pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
0Z746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 5 via GUM
UA180/5071	10:50pm	8:05am+1	3, 6 GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

UNDERSTANDING THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

Minimum annual payments: The Government is required to make minimum annual payments to the Settlement Fund to sustain payments of 75% of full benefits to all Class Members.

Alternative payment amount: If the CNMI economy improves to a point where 17% of the total annual revenue is greater than the minimum annual payment, the Government will be required to pay the greater amount.

Payments made under the Settlement Agreement: The annual payments will go to the Settlement Fund and may be used only for the benefit of the Class Members. Those who opt out will not have any right to payments from the Settlement Fund. Those who opt out will have to enforce their rights at their own expense.

Consent judgment enforceable if Government fails to make minimum annual payments: If the Government does not make payments as required under the Settlement Agreement the Class Members are protected by a $779 million Consent Judgment that may be enforced at such time that the Government fails to make a payment. The amount of the Consent Judgment equals the actuarial present value of Class Members' benefits, which is the amount if paid today would be sufficient to allow the Fund to pay Class Members full benefits as required by law. Those who opt out of the Class will not be protected by the Consent Judgment.

Guaranteed payment of 75% of benefits: The Settlement Agreement guarantees that Class Members will receive at least 75% of their full benefit payments. Nothing in the Settlement prevents the Government from paying more than that amount. Furthermore, if the Government pays benefits that are greater than 75% to a person who opts out of the Class, the Government will be required to pay the class members that greater benefit amount as well. This guarantees that class members will not receive less than a person who opts out of the Settlement Class.

Group health and life insurance: Class members will continue to be covered by the Government's group health and life insurance and are guaranteed to receive the same health and life insurance benefits that the Government provides for current employees. The Government will pay the employer's share for all Class Members from the general fund and not from the Settlement Fund.

Withdrawal of employee contributions under Public Law Nos. 17-82 and 18-02: The Fund is in the process of disbursing the first $10 million to those who elected to terminate membership and have signed a waiver. The remainder of the employee contributions will be disbursed upon Final Approval of the Settlement Agreement. The Government will pay for interest from the general fund and must determine how and when to pay it.

Return to litigation if there is no Final Approval: If the District Court does not grant Final Approval or if the Settlement Agreement otherwise fails, the parties will return to litigation of the case as it was on June 26, 2013 and proceed as though there were never a settlement agreement.

THE SETTLEMENT CLASS

Members of the Settlement Class: If you are a current retiree, a survivor of a retiree, an inactive member who has not terminated membership in the CNMI Fund, or an active employee who is a member of the Defined Benefit Plan and did not elect to terminate under Public Law Nos. 17-82 or 18-02, you are part of the Settlement Class and will remain a part of the Class unless you submit a timely request for exclusion. The governing date of determination is August 6, 2013.

Inclusion in the Settlement Class: If you want to be part of the Settlement Class, you do not need to do anything. You are automatically part of the Settlement Class if you fall under the definition of the class.

Exclusion from the Settlement Class: If you do not want to be part of the Settlement Class, you must deliver a written request to the CNMI Fund by 5:00 p.m. on September 20, 2013. If you do not make a timely request for exclusion, you will be a member of the Settlement Class.

Maximum number of exclusions: If the people who exclude themselves from the Settlement Class (or "opt out") have benefits equal to or exceeding 10% of the Full Benefits payable in Fiscal Year 2014, the Settlement Agreement will be void.

Objections: Class members who do not request exclusion will have an opportunity to oppose the Final Approval of the Settlement Agreement and to object to the Class Counsel's application for attorneys' fees.

ATTORNEYS' FEES AND SERVICE AWARD FOR BETTY JOHNSON

Attorneys' Fees: Class Counsel must prepare and file an application for attorneys' fees and costs with the District Court. The District Court will then determine the reasonable amount of attorneys' fees and costs due to Class Counsel. The Government will be responsible for paying such fees and costs and may also appeal the District Court's determination.

Service award: Subject to the District Court's approval, the Government must pay $7,500 to Betty Johnson to compensate her for pursuing the litigation on behalf of the Class.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Class Counsel—Bronster Hoshibata
Margery Bronster or Robert Hatch
808.524.5644

Office of the Attorney General
Reena J. Patel, Gilbert J. Birnbrich, or Teresita J. Sablan
670.664.2341

REMINDER: The default rule is inclusion in the Settlement Class. If you fall under the definition of the Settlement Class and you do not do anything, you will be part of the Settlement Class. Class members will receive a formal notice in the mail explaining the settlement agreement and their rights with respect to the agreement in further detail.

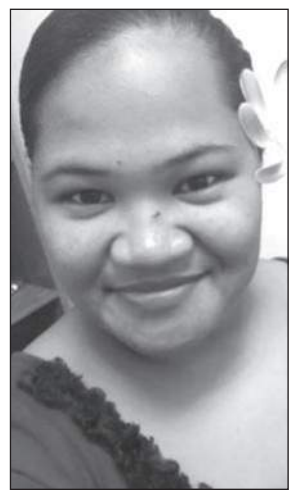
7 Pacific students awarded PREL teacher scholarships

Catherine Borja-Flores

Daphne Nestor

Drystal Silbanuz

Rhonda Johnny


Tala Ropeti

Tonya Tuigamala

Yasko Weilbacher

HONOLULU, Hawai'i—A student of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Catherine Borja-Flores, has been named one of seven recipients of the 2013 Pacific Teacher Scholarship Awards.

PREL announced the recipients in a statement issued Friday. Besides Borja-Flores, others will also benefit from the scholarships are Tala Ropeti, American Sāmoa; Tonya Tuigamala, American Sāmoa; Rhonda Johnny, Pohnpei; Drystal Silbanuz, Pohnpei; Yasko Weilbacher, Pohnpei; and Daphne Nestor, Republic of Palau

The recipients are accomplished students currently enrolled in a teacher preparation program at an accredited college or university and are residents of the U.S.-affiliated Pacific islands. Since 2004, PREL has offered this scholarship opportunity to assist aspiring teachers in the Pacific region as they work toward their educational goals, with the intent to bring their knowledge home to their communities.

Applicants submit a personal statement, course transcripts, and letters of recommendation. Criteria for the scholarship competition include having an intention to teach at a school in the USAPI and a good academic record with a minimum GPA of 2.5. PREL received and reviewed applications from across the jurisdictions.

About PREL

PREL envisions a world where all children and communities are literate and healthy, global participants grounded in and enriched by their cultures. Throughout the Pacific, a region of diverse languages and cultures, PREL collaborates with clients and partners using the proven results of research to improve schooling and promote community change. PREL is an independent, nonprofit corporation headquartered in Hawai'i, with service centers in American Sāmoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau, and the Federated States of Micronesia: Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, and Yap. ***(PREL)***

Day of prayer, Ninoy death anniversary on Aug. 21

Another Global Day of Prayer for Peace in the West Philippine Sea will be held at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion this Wednesday, Aug. 21.

The U.S. Pinoys for Good Governance Marianas Chapter will once again be organizing the event in collaboration with the Association of Filipino Pastors on Saipan. It will also be held in commemoration of 30th death anniversary of Philippine democracy icon Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino Jr.

USP4GG Marianas Chapter chair Dr. Celia Lamkin said the Global Day of Prayer for Peace and Ninoy Aquino death anniversary commemoration will be from 6pm to 8pm at the Susupe landmark.

She said the Calvary International Mission and Filipino Community Church, the Marianas Christian Church, Upper Room International Ministry, Victorious Christian Church, Marianas Bible Fellowship Center, Missions Connections Ministry, and El Shaddai have already confirmed their participation.

Besides the event at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion, the nine Catholic churches on Saipan (except the Tanapag church) and on Tinian will offer intentions for the Global Day of Prayer for Peace and Ninoy Aquino's death anniversary commemoration at 6pm this Wednesday.

Lamkin also coordinated the global day of prayer for peace in Guam and Hawaii. Other countries such as the Philippines, New Zealand, and most cities in the U.S. mainland will join this event.

For more information about the Global Day of Prayer for Peace and Ninoy Aquino's death anniversary commemoration this Wednesday, call Lamkin at 288-1714. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

AMENDED NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the **SIA ROOF DRAINAGE AND A/C SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS, FRANCISCO C. ADA SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP NO. 3-69-0002-62/65/67 (CPA-SA-003-09).**

Contractors are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *"Saipan International Airport Roof Drainage & A/C Systems Improvements Project, AIP Nos. 3-69-0002-62/65/67 (CPA-SA-003-09)* and delivered to the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at **2:00 PM, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2013**, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, consists of the Drainage System Improvement/Upgrade and Air-Conditioning Improvements to include the replacement of the damaged roof waterproofing with existing insulation board and diversion of the roof drain, and replacement of all PCU units and associated duct works serving all CPA (i.e. public area), all in accordance with the plans and specifications.

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project shall be in 330 calendar days. The contractor shall be assessed with the liquidated damages in the amount of $500/day if the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract time without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

All mechanics and laborers on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70-24 of the specifications.

Each bidder must complete, sign, and furnish the "Bidder's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause", a "Certification of Nonsegregated Facilities", and the "Assurance of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Participation", as contained in the bid proposal documents, with the submission of the Bid Proposal.

Bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of TWO **HUNDRED DOLLARS ($200.00)** for each set of plan documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the **CONFERENCE ROOM, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 10:00 AM, FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 2013**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. A site visit will follow right after the pre-bid conference. Attendance is mandatory to all prospective bidders. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference. Contractors are required to attend the pre-bid meeting.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are encouraged to use the CD bid schedule form. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

The proposed contract is under and subject to Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375 dated October 13, 1977, and Section 60-1.4(b) of the regulations of the Secretary of Labor (41 CFR 60-1) as implemented by Section 152.61 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, and to the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Federal Labor provisions.

All labor on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rates established by CNMI Law or Federal Law, whichever is higher. The Contractor shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract.

Each bidder must supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications.

The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A contractor having 50 or more employees and any subcontractor having 50 or more employees and who may be awarded a contract of Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000.00) or more, will be required to maintain an affirmative action program, the standards for which are contained in the specifications. To be eligible for award, each bidder must comply with the affirmative action requirements.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award of any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement.

Women will be afforded equal opportunity in all areas of employment. However, the employment of women shall not diminish the standards or requirements for employment of minorities.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a bid bond by US Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **ten percent (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The proposed contract is under and subject to the foreign trade restrictions required by 49 CFR Part 30, Denial of Public Works Contracts to Supplier of Goods and Services of Countries that Deny Procurement Market Access to U.S. Contractors.

The Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990 provides that preference be given to steel and manufactured products produced in the United States when funds are expended pursuant to a grant issued under the Airport Improvement Program.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Board Chair/Contracting Officer

Date: August 15, 2013

SHEILA N. TRIANNI
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 8216
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 234-6892
Facsimile: (670) 234-6893

Attorney for Administrator

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE: ESTATE OF RITA ROGOLOFOI, Deceased.

Civil Action No. 03-0079

PUBLIC NOTICE MEETING WITH ADMINISTRATOR AND STATUS CONFERENCE

To: all Heirs of Rita Rogolofoi

Notice is hereby given that the Administrator, Clarence E. White, will meet with the Heirs of Rita Rogolofoi on Saturday, August 24, 2013, at 9 a.m. in the conference room of Suite 609, 6th Floor Marianas Business Plaza. Any questions, comments or information for the Administrator may be sent via email to bud@whitecoconut.com or the Administrator may be contacted directly by phone at 322-9443. All heirs are requested to attend. A status conference will be held before Judge David A. Wiseman on August 27, 2013, 1:30 p.m. in courtroom 223A.

DATED this 16th day of August, 2013.

SHEILA N. TRIANNI
Attorney for Administrator
CNMI Bar. No. F0206

Joseph A. Arriola
P.O. Box 10003 PMB 632
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670) 483-0207

Pro Se Petitioner

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

JOSEPH ALDAN ARRIOLA, Petitioner,
vs.
JOVIE A. CERVEZA, Respondent.

FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 13-0311

SUMMONS

TO: RESPONDENT JOVIE. A CERVEZA

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint for Divorce, a copy of which is given to you herewith, within twenty (20) days after service of this Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Petitioner Joseph A. Arriola, whose address is P.O. Box 10003 PMB 632, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Court for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

Dated this 2nd day of July, 2013.

/s/ Clerk of Court

EVELYN P. CALVO
P.O. Box 502652
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7817

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE GUARDIANSHIP OF GREGORIO S. CALVO An Incompetent
by
EVELYN P. CALVO Petitioner.

FCD GU CIVIL ACTION NO. 13-0385

NOTICE OF HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition for Appointment of Guardianship for the above-named by EVELYN P. CALVO, Petitioner, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court and is open for review at the office of the Clerk of the said Court in Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A HEARING of said petition for Guardianship will be held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at Guma Hustisia Building, Susupe, Saipan, NMI, before Kenneth L. Govendo on the 29th day of August, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. or as soon as thereafter.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

/s/Deputy Clerk of Court

Judiciary names a new Budget and Finance director

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Following his appointment as Budget and Finance director, Juan Diego V. Tenorio, second from the left, is pictured with Associate Justice John A. Manglona, Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro, and, on the right, Associate Justice Perry B. Inos.

Juan Diego V. Tenorio was appointed Budget and Finance director for the CNMI Judiciary on Aug. 7, 2013.

Tenorio, affectionately known as "JD," graduated from Hawaii Pacific University in 2003 with a bachelor of science degree in Business Administration with a finance major. He worked for the Office of the Public Auditor for three years, from 2004 through 2007, and served as the Emergency Services director for the CNMI Red Cross until accepting his appointment with the Judiciary.

As Budget and Finance Director, Tenorio's responsibilities include coordination of fiscal goals, management of the court's financial processes, maintenance of expenditure data and annual budget preparation.

Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro, who made the appointment, said: "JD's appointment allows the Judiciary to maximize oversight of its finances. While we could not hire a director of courts due to budgetary constraints, the creation of the Budget and Finance director position allows us to effectively manage our limited resources. I am excited about JD joining the Judiciary."

Tenorio expressed enthusiasm for his new position saying, "Good budgeting and tight financial controls are important for any institution; I intend to continue and even improve on that tradition at the Judiciary." ***(NMI Judiciary)***

UOG releases report on latest consumer confidence survey

The University of Guam Pacific Center for Economic Initiatives has released its report on the sixth Consumer Confidence Survey on Guam. This is the latest in its series of consumer confidence surveys that began in March 2009.

"As a land-grant university, UOG is pleased to provide the results of the latest consumer confidence survey relating to Guam's economy as a continual engagement outcome for planners and policy decision makers," said UOG interim senior vice president Anita Borja Enriquez, D.B.A., who also serves as PCEI's director.

Annette Taijeron Santos, D.B.A., acting dean of the School of Business and Public Administration, considers this report "a great example of UOG's role in transferring and applying university-based knowledge for practical benefits contributing to the island's economic prosperity."

The report is written by Maria Claret Ruane, Ph.D., resident development economist for PCEI and professor of Economics at the School of Business and Public Administration and can be downloaded at the PCEI website at www.uogpcei.org.

Like past surveys, Guam consumers were asked to assess their experience in the past 12 months with the local business conditions, especially in terms of income and employment, as well the regional and global economy. In addition, Guam consumers were asked to look 12 months forward and share their prospects on the same five areas, as well as their plans to purchase big-ticket items and to vacation.

The survey was conducted between Feb. 23 and April 12, 2013. PCEI thanks the 368 respondents who participated in this survey.

Results show that:

■ Most survey respondents assessed their economic situation in the past 12 months as neutral ("same as last year's"). This is noteworthy in light of negative developments affecting tourism and the overall economy around the time of the survey (i.e., Tumon stabbings on Feb. 12, North Korean nuclear threats in April and a strengthening U.S. dollar vs. Japanese Yen since September). Also, a higher percentage of respondents viewed the local business environment more positively than regional or global business environments.

■ Respondents are generally optimistic about economic prospects in the next 12 months, responding either in the positive ("better than this year's") or neutral ("same as this year's"). Like in the previous survey, respondents are more upbeat in their economic prospects for Guam in the next 12 months than they are for the region or the world.

■ Despite the generally positive economic prospects in the next 12 months, consumers continue to be cautious spenders on big-ticket items, especially with regard to purchases of real estate or vehicles.

■ Majority of respondents do not have vacation plans in the next 12 months, although the greatest potential is for trips to the U.S. mainland.

Previous surveys are reported in *PCEI Technical Report, Issues 3, 7, 11, 13 and 14*, which can be downloaded from http://www.uogpcei.org/resources-information/. PCEI plans to repeat this survey in early 2014.

The University of Guam Pacific Center for Economic Initiatives is a regional project funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration. It intends to help build local entrepreneurship capacity and local information resource capacity, as part of its comprehensive approach towards entrepreneurship and economic development in Guam. ***(UOG)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-13-022

SALARY ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Office of the Executive Director is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified consultant or consulting firm to review and revise the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation's current Salary Administration Program (SAP), including the development of a performance management rating and payment system.

The RFP package and the scope-of-work may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $ 100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on **August 8, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-13-022, Salary Administration Program", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **August 27, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services.

Offerors will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing no later than **August 12, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Frankie Cepeda, CUC Human Resource Manager via email frankie.cepeda@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all offers and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-13-024

TANK # 103, 120 & ISO TANKS CLEANING AT CUC POWER PLANT NO. 1, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for the Tank Nos. 103, 120 & ISO Tank Cleaning at CUC Power Plant, Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The "CUC" or "Corporation" currently operates multiple diesel engine generators at its Power Plant Nos. 1 and No. 2, Lower Base, Saipan, CNMI. The CUC is soliciting proposals from experienced contractors or specialist firms experienced in the cleaning of fuel storage tanks up to 1 M USG capacity.

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) and the United States District Court entered into a Stipulated Order Number Two (SO No. 2) for Preliminary Injunctive Relief under Civil Case No. CV 08-0051 (Section 1.1). The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) filed the civil action seeking injunctive relief under the Clean Water Act (CWA), and the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This work shall satisfy the requirement in Section IV, Oil Spill Prevention and Preparedness, Paragraphs # 28 Tank System Integrity Testing Work plan and Implementation for CUC Power plants 1 and 2 Integrity Inspection Program. The Power Plants 1 and 2 are located at the Lower Base Industrial Area near Saipan seaport, in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). It is the corporations' desire to undertake cleaning of the Bulk tank # 103, as soon the new tank #102 under construction is commissioned:

The work shall be done in two phases:
- **Phase 1 - Tank #103 (840,000 gal.)**
- **Phase 2 – Miscellaneous tanks – Tank # 120 (20,000 gal.) & ISO tanks, 2 ea. – 6,350 gal.**

The RFP package may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $50.00 for one set from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference followed by a site visit, will be held on **August 12, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Power Plant No. 1 Conference Room in Lower Base, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"TANK # 103, 120 & ISO TANKS CLEANING AT CUC POWER PLANT 1, SAIPAN",** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **August 29, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. Contract will be awarded to the most responsive proposers, as adjudged CUC and US EPA. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This RFP and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All questions or request for clarification must be submitted in writing no later than **August 13, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Venugopal Prabhakara, CUC Power Generation Acting TMO via email address venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

UOG TRiO students participate in nat'l student congress

Six student delegates from the University of Guam TRiO Educational Talent Search and Upward Bound programs participated in the Council for Opportunity 24th Annual National Student Leadership Congress in Washington, D.C. from June 8 to 13, 2013. This year's event brought 150 Upward Bound, Upward Bound Math/Science, and Talent Search students from 25 states, Puerto Rico, and Guam. Student delegates in NSLC are juniors or seniors who are nominated by their TRiO directors because of their leadership potential.

"My experience at the 24th Annual National Student Leadership Congress was something I will never forget," said Joie Payumo, 17. "I made new friends, learned how Congress works, and the steps required when proposing a bill, and toured Washington, D.C."

Throughout the week, students also participated in an interactive workshop on conflict resolution, attended discussions about college, visited the museums of the Smithsonian Institution, went on a historical tour of Washington, D.C., attended a performance at the Kennedy Center, and visited Guam delegate Madeline Bordallo on Capitol Hill.

"In our meeting with congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo, we discussed the importance of TRiO in our lives and how it prepares young people for higher education," said Payumo.

One of the highlights of NSLC is the Mock Congress, which is designed to extend the values of democracy and citizen participation by engaging the students in activities that address current issues of concern, increase their analytical skills to successfully prioritize important issues and courses of action, and gain a better understanding of the legislative process. In the Mock Congress, the students examine current issues and discuss viewpoints for and against the issue. They must research, write, debate, and develop bills of legislation.

The steps of the process are similar to those in Congress itself. Students examine the topic, select a subtopic for the subcommittee, research and craft the bill in subcommittee, sponsor debate of the merits of the bill, complete final mark up on the bill to be ready for full floor reading and voting and present the bill.

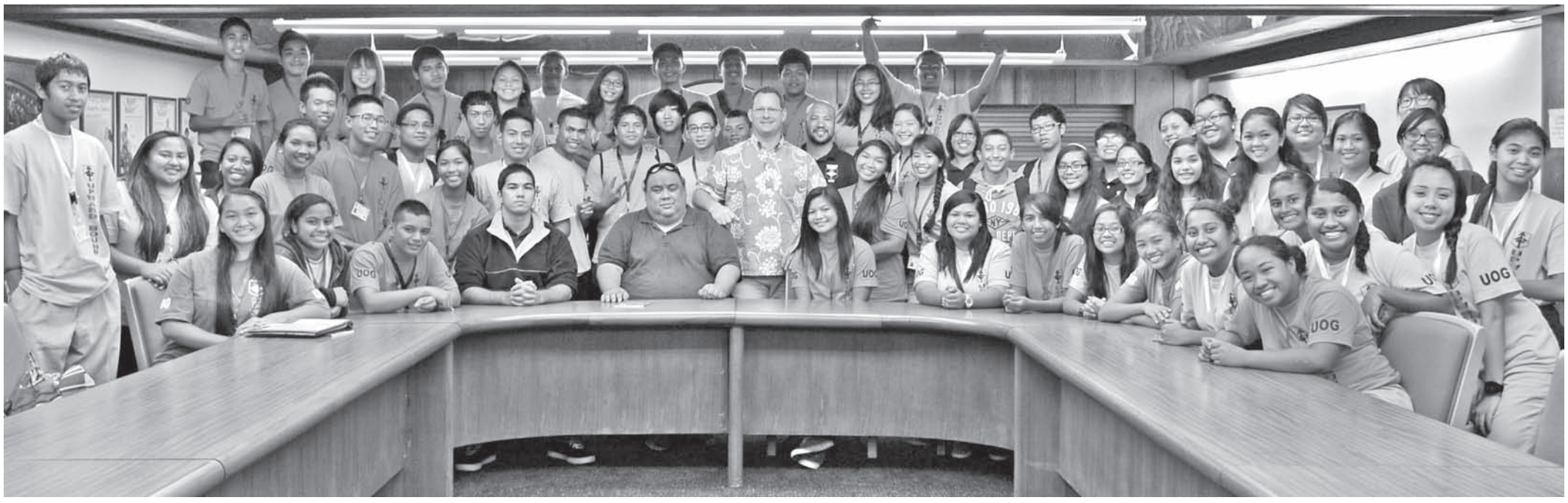
"Now, I'm more aware of how the decisions made in Congress affect our daily lives," said Payumo.

This year, some of the bills introduced included topics such as violence in video games, whether privacy in social media should be protected, the question of whether school cafeterias contribute to the nation's obesity problem and same sex marriage.

"We really enjoyed the research involved to enable them to argue both sides of the issue," said Payumo.

TRiO is a federally funded, nationwide, non-profit program designed to assist students from disadvantaged backgrounds who are first-generation college bound and/or who are from low-income households, complete secondary education and continue to pursue and complete postsecondary education. TRiO programs are composed of three educational opportunity outreached programs: Educational Talent Search, Upward Bound, and Student Support Services.

UOG TRiO's mission is to motivate and assist economically and educationally disadvantaged students from our community and Micronesia, to ensure their progress through the academic pipeline, from middle school through post secondary programs, and to increase college retention and graduation rates of the target population. For more information about UOG TRiO programs, call 735-2245. ***(UOG)***



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The NSLC student delegation from UOG TRiO accompanied by UOG Upward Bound students recently presented their experiences at the NSLC to Lt. Governor Ray Tenorio in the Conference Room at the Governors' Complex in Adelup. Pictured in the photo are the UOG TRiO Upward Bound students and staff and Lt. Gov. Ray Tenorio, center.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Townhall meetings on Tinian and Rota

There will be a townhall meeting on the islands of Tinian and Rota to discuss the *Johnson v. Inos* settlement agreement as follows:

- **ROTA:** Tuesday, Aug. 20, at 5:30pm, Sinapalo Elementary School cafeteria
- **TINIAN:** Thursday, Aug. 22, at 5:30pm, at the Tinian Jr./Sr. High School cafeteria

The public is invited to listen to Gov. Eloy S. Inos, acting Retirement Fund administrator Lillian Pangelinan, and legal counsels explain the benefits of the settlement agreement. There will also be an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions about the settlement agreement. ***(PR)***

Bereaved Families support group meeting

A group that is in the process of forming a Compassionate Friends chapter on Saipan will be holding their monthly grief support meeting on Thursday, Aug. 1, from 6pm to 7:30pm, in the NMPASI conference room on Middle Road, in Gualo Rai.

We offer understanding and hope to bereaved parents, siblings and grandparents who are grieving the loss of a child of any age, and from any cause. We provide a safe, confidential setting, in which to share our experiences, while respecting and supporting each other, and listening. We have "been there." We do not espouse any specific religious or philosophical ideology. There is no "right way" to grieve, and family members are welcome to come to share or just to listen.

For more information, call Jill Derickson at 287-5337 or e-mail jilld@pticom.com. To learn more about The Compassionate Friends, visit their website at www.compassionatefriends.org. ***(PR)***

House committee hearing on Tinian

The House Committee on Education is inviting the Tinian public to a public hearing on Aug. 22 at 6:30pm at the Tinian Court House to discuss HLI 18-007, which seeks to amend Article 15, Section 2 of the Constitution to authorize the election of the members of the Northern Marianas College Board of Regents. Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz, Tinian regent Michaela U. Sanchez, and Maria Aguon, NMC Tinian instructional site program coordinator will be some of the witnesses present at the hearing.

Members of the public are encouraged to submit written or verbal comments on or before the date of the hearing. Contact the Office of Rep. Roman C. Benavente and fax comments to (670) 664-8900 or email rep.rbenavente@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

SAES registration ongoing

Registration for school 2013-2014 is ongoing at the San Antonio Elementary School. Registration forms are available at the office. For returning students, submit the complete registration form, the child's health certificate (which requires an annual renewal), a map of residence, and insurance card. For new students, include the child's birth certificate and the transfer-out form from their previous school.

Parent orientation will be on Friday, Aug. 30, 2013, from 5:30pm to 7pm.

Classes will resume on Sept. 3, 2013, Tuesday. The tardy bell will ring at 8am and dismissal will be at 2:30pm. Gates will open 7:15am. New dismissal time for school year will be at 2:30pm. ***(PR)***

Air Force training on Farallon de Medinilla

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- Aug. 19 – 20, from 9:30am to 6pm
- Aug. 22, from 9:30am to 2pm

The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated above.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. ***(PR)***

Kagman High beginning-of-the-year orientations

Orientation for all new and returning students is designed to inform parents and students of any new or changing information about the 2013-2014 school year. Attendance at orientation is highly recommended for both parents and students.

Schedules will be handed out on this day. Students who are *not* registered will *not* get schedules. Orientation dates are:

- Freshmen and seniors: Tuesday, Aug. 27, from 1:30pm to 2:30pm
- Sophomores and juniors: Wednesday, Aug. 28, from 1:30pm to 2:30pm. ***(PR)***

CCA board to meet on Aug. 20

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's board of directors will be holding a meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 20, 2013, at 3pm at the CCA conference room. Agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at cca@ccamarianas.org. ***(CCA)***

Survivors, caregivers support meeting on Aug. 22

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly support meeting on Thursday, Aug. 22, 2013, starting at 5:30pm at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. To RSVP or for more information, call the CCA at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com or cca@ccamarianas.org. ***(CCA)***

Veterans' benefits outreach on Saipan, Tinian

Lee Stahli from the U.S. Department of Veterans Benefits Outreach Office in Guam will be on Saipan and Tinian to conduct a Federal Veterans Benefits Outreach. He will entertain all inquires on old and new VA disability claims, including all other VA benefits questions.

Stahli will be on Tinian on Aug. 20, 2013, from 9am to 4pm, at the Tinian Mayor's Office conference room. He will be on Saipan on Aug. 21 and Aug. 23, from 8:30am to 4pm, at the Saipan VA Outreach Clinic, Suite 206 (second floor) at the Marina Heights Business Park, MHII Bldg. Appointments and walk-ins are all welcome. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION TO BIDS
CUC-ITB-13-023

SURVEYED VEHICLES

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is inviting interested individuals and firms to bid on CUC Surveyed Vehicles located in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Bid Package may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $25.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and One (1) copy must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-ITB-13-023, CUC Surveyed Vehicles"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 23, 2013** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

Bidders must sign a Waiver of Liability, removing CUC's liability from claims resulting from violations relating to the removal and disposal of the surveyed vehicles. CUC shall transfer and assign the surveyed vehicles to the prospective bidder in a **"As is, Where is"** condition. By accepting the transfer and assignment, the bidder acknowledges that CUC has made no representation or warranties of the merchantability, quality, fitness, and condition of the vehicles.

The vehicles may be inspected by appointment only, between the hours of 9:00 AM thru 3:00 PM Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, by contacting CUC Procurement & Supply Division at telephone no. 235-7025.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any defects in the said bids, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in the best interest of the CUC.

All inquiries shall be must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **August 14, 2013** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Administrative Assistant for Procurement via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-13-025

TANK 103 OUT OF SERVICE (API 653) INSPECTION AT POWER PLANT NO. 1, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced engineering and certified specialist firms for the out of service inspection and integrity testing of the above ground oil storage tank (AST) # 103 and connected pipeline within the secondary containment at CUC Power Plant No. 1 in Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) and the United States District Court entered into a Stipulated Order Number Two (SO No. 2) for Preliminary Injunctive Relief under Civil Case No. CV 08-0051 (Section 1.1). The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) filed the civil action seeking injunctive relief under the Clean Water Act (CWA), and the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This work shall satisfy the requirement in Section IV, Oil Spill Prevention and Preparedness, Paragraphs # 28 Tank System Integrity Testing Work plan and Implementation for CUC Power plants 1 and 2 Integrity Inspection Program. The Power Plants 1 and 2 are located at the Lower Base Industrial Area near Saipan seaport, in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The inspection is expected to be in two phases:
1. ***Out of service pre-repair inspection after tank cleaning, and***
2. ***Final tank inspection after performing the necessary repairs based on the scope of work developed during Phase 1.***

The RFP package may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $50.00 for one set from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference followed by a site visit, will be held on **August 13, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Power Plant No. 1 Conference Room in Lower Base, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"TANK 103 OUT OF SERVICE (API 653) INSPECTION AT POWER PLANT NO. 1, SAIPAN"**, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **August 30, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. Contract will be awarded to the most responsive proposers, as adjudged CUC and US EPA. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This RFP and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All questions or request for clarification must be submitted in writing no later than **August 14, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Venugopal Prabhakara, CUC Power Generation Acting TMO via email address venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-13-026

Capitol Hill Pressure Improvement and Waterline Replacement Project

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Capitol Hill Pressure Improvement and Waterline Replacement Project in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

The work consists of installation of new waterlines, cut and cap and tapping to existing waterlines in Capitol Hill Housing Blocks 1200 and 1300, Pohnpei Way, and Isa Drive; installation of new pressure reducing valves, gate valves and fire hydrants. The work is also inclusive of installation of new water lateral lines, reconnection of all existing water meters, asphalt paving restoration, etc. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the water system.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **365 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

The Bid Package may be picked-up, upon receipt of payment from the CUC Treasury Section by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $250.00 (non-refundable) at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **August 23, 2013** at 1:30 PM (ChST) at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.14, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Seven (7) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-13-026, Capitol Hill Pressure Improvement and Waterline Replacement Project" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 12, 2013**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **August 26, 2013** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Larry Manacop, Water/Wastewater Engineer via email at larry.manacop@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-13-028

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF PREPAID METERS

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Supply and Delivery of Remote Disconnect Prepaid Meters for CUC Power Division, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Bid Package may be obtained, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash or check, in the amount of $100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-13-028, Supply & Delivery of Remote Disconnect Prepaid Meters",* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 9, 2013** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **August 23, 2013** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Alfredo Palattao, CUC Power Division Engineer via email at alfredo.palattao@cucgov.org & Charles Warren, CUC Chief Financial Officer via email charles.warren@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

Business

Power companies dangle freebies

NEW YORK (AP)—Electric bills have long been take-it-or-leave-it affairs: Pay one rate for all the power you used the month before, no matter when you used it.

But some electric companies want to shake-up that rigid business model. They are increasingly offering plans that sound like come-ons from mobile phone companies: Free nights, free weekends and pre-paid plans.

"We are seeing a transformation in the way people buy and use electricity in the U.S.," says Steven Murray, president of Direct Energy's residential energy programs.

The more customized plans are made easier by the growing use of digital meters that wirelessly link electric companies and customers, allowing both to track usage in real time. Digital meters have not only spurred competition, they have also enabled traditional utilities to reduce their costs by encouraging customers to use electricity during off-peak hours, when it is cheaper.

Forty-two percent of U.S. electric customers have digital meters, up from less than 5 percent in 2008. In 2015, more than 50 percent will have them, according to Navigant Consulting.

This new breed of electric plans comes with risks.

Customers can end up paying a lot more for power than they expected. Some plans offer low introductory rates that can quickly skyrocket. Others have high early-termination fees. Some fixed-rate plans are a great deal if power prices rise, but they may seem awfully expensive if prices fall.

If customers are careful, though, they can pay less.

Dorothea Miller of Sinking Spring, Pa. signed up for a Direct Energy plan that gives her one day of free power every week. She picked Saturday, and now saves as much of her housework as she can until then. She stops short, she says, of letting mountains of dirty laundry or dishes accumulate in anticipation of Saturday's free power.

AP

In this Jan. 21, 2011, file photo, Manager Nick Reynoza holds a 100-watt incandescent light bulb at Royal Lighting in Los Angeles.

"We pretty much run things the way we did before the plan, but now we set our dishwasher to go on after midnight (Friday) and do most of our laundry on Saturday," she says.

TXU Energy offers a similar plan to Texas customers that offers free power every night from 10 p.m. until 6 a.m., or free power Saturdays and Sundays, in exchange for a higher rate during other times.

Customized plans are most prevalent in the 13 states and Washington, D.C., where regulators have allowed companies to compete to sell electricity. In those states, the number of customers that have signed up with electricity suppliers that offer these types of plans rose to 13.3 million in 2011, from 8.7 million in 2008, according to the most recent numbers from the Compete Coalition, a group that lobbies to expand competitive electricity markets. The plans are also popping up in other states.

Electric competition has been around for more than a decade and utilities have experimented with pricing plans for even longer. But digital meters have made these plans easier to offer and manage. They are being installed around the world; utilities in China, Japan and across the European Union have aggressive plans to expand the use of digital meters.

In the U.S., companies have different motivations for offering innovative plans. Traditional regulated utilities are trying to reduce stresses on their grids. Upstart power providers are trying to lure new customers.

In both cases, they are trying to get customers to use less electricity when it costs more. Wholesale power prices fluctuate depending on the time of day, from zero overnight to thousands of dollars per megawatt-hour during a hot day.

Yet most customers see one average price every month, a price that includes those sky-high peak rates. With plans that offer prices that vary based on the time of day, customers can avoid high-cost power in the same way air travelers can save by not flying on the Wednesday night before Thanksgiving.

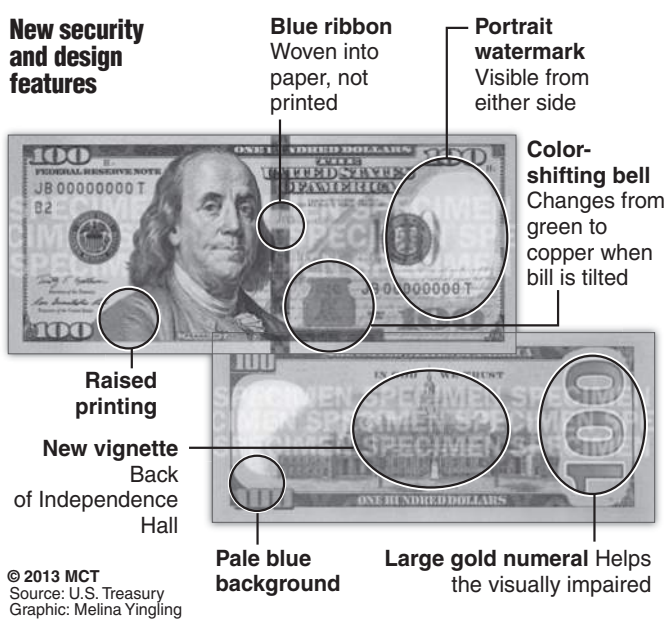
Power providers use fleets of pushy door-to-door sales people, pop-up-booths in malls and tens of thousands of mailed flyers to sign up customers. But it can be difficult to get people to switch because most people don't think about electricity unless they lose it, and the cost of electric bills isn't a major concern.

"It's not like an entertainment purchase where you can see the reward," says Bruce Stewart, chief marketing officer for Constellation Energy, the retail arm of Exelon Corp.

U.S. power prices have been mostly flat or declining since the mid-1980s, adjusted for inflation. A typical residential customer spends $110 per month on electricity. That's one-third the average amount spent by a family on gasoline.

All about the Benjamins

A printing error called "mashing" – when too much ink is applied to the paper – has rendered 30 million new $100 bills unusable, causing the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing to scramble to meet their Oct. 8 deadline. Redesigned to help thwart counterfeiters, the new bills, first revealed in 2010, were expected to be in circulation in 2011.


New security and design features
Blue ribbon Woven into paper, not printed
Portrait watermark Visible from either side
Color-shifting bell Changes from green to copper when bill is tilted
Raised printing
New vignette Back of Independence Hall
Pale blue background
Large gold numeral Helps the visually impaired

© 2013 MCT
Source: U.S. Treasury
Graphic: Melina Yingling

Nation

Ind. team leads fight against child porn

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—In a cluttered office cubicle in a nondescript building on Indianapolis' derelict east side, a man with rolled-up shirt sleeves scans email attachments of videos that depict startlingly young children being sexually tormented in ways that can make even federal judges weep.

Detective Kurt Spivey is trying to find the people who record or collect such images. He has 30 days to locate as many as he can. After that, the trail could go cold as the data on the hard drive dissolves.

Spivey is a 43-year-old police detective who parlayed his nine years in vice and experience with computers into a position on the city's cybercrime unit. It's part of central Indiana's Internet Crimes Against Children task force, which has become one of the nation's most aggressive and effective child pornography hunters, with a reach that extends around the globe.

"They are really cutting-edge," said Francey Hakes, who worked for three years as a special assistant to the U.S. Attorney General overseeing child exploitation units in various agencies within the Justice Department. "I would say that most districts that have learned of some of the techniques and tactics used there have tried to model and adopt them as best they can."

At first blush, Indiana isn't a likely location for such a group. Though it has its share of violent crime, the state is better known for its hospitality, auto racing and love of basketball than as an international hotbed of perversion.

Yet in 2011, the latest year for which U.S. Department of Justice statistics are available, Indiana's task force made 166 arrests for manufacturing, distributing or possessing child pornography. New York City's task force made 16 arrests, and Chicago's team made 71.

And Indiana did all this with about $100,000 less funding than New York City.

Much of the success of the Indiana team, which includes federal, state and local agencies, stems from the reach the Internet provides. The team also benefits from a rare level of cooperation among the law enforcement agencies that has largely eliminated turf wars.

AP

In this Feb. 19, 2013, photo, Indiana State Police Lt. Chuck Cohen poses for a photo in a mobile crime lab in Indianapolis.

That cooperation is essential as child pornography trafficking, which had largely been eliminated in the United States by the mid-1980s, has exploded, fueled by the Internet, social networking and digital technology that make it easy to produce and access.

"The thing with social networking is, no matter what your interest is, you can find people with the same interest or even more extreme interest ... so by extension, you can feel normal," said Indiana State Police Lt. Chuck Cohen, chief of the state's Internet Crimes Against Children task force.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children says it reviewed 17.3 million images and videos of suspected child pornography in 2011. That's four times more than 2007.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Steve DeBrota, who began pursuing child pornography cases in 1991 as a green federal prosecutor because no one else wanted them, said the technology can be a curse because it creates more avenues for sharing pornography.

But it's also a blessing, because the Internet has no boundaries. So long as there's a trail to follow, it doesn't matter whether the investigator is in a rural farmhouse in Indiana or in a hut in Indonesia. The Indiana team has followed the cyber trail to suspects in the United Kingdom and Australia.

ACROSS THE NATION

Navy changes how alcohol is sold on-base

NAVAL STATION NORFOLK, Va. (AP)—On the world's largest naval base, sailors can pull into a gas station and buy a bottle of liquor before sunrise. But as the Navy works to curb alcohol abuse in a push reduce sexual assaults and other crimes, the days of picking up a bottle of Kahlua along with a cup of coffee are coming to an end. The Navy's top admiral has ordered a series of changes to the way the Navy sells booze. Chief among them, the Navy will stop selling liquor at its mini marts and prohibit the sale of alcohol at any of its stores from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. "It's not going to fix everything, but it is a real step in the right direction," said David Jernigan, Johns Hopkins University's director of the Center on Alcohol Marketing and Youth.

NTSB: No problem with controls in fatal UPS crash

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP)—Federal investigators said Saturday they haven't found any problems with the controls in a UPS cargo jet that crashed while landing in Alabama, killing the two pilots. National Transportation Safety Board member Robert Sumwalt said the cockpit controls in the A300 aircraft appeared to be working before the crash, and they matched the positions of the airplane's flaps and rudder. Sumwalt's comments came during a news conference Saturday at Birmingham's airport, where investigators are still sifting through the wreckage of the twin-engine aircraft.

More crews arrive to help battle Idaho wildfire

HAILEY, Idaho (AP)—A wildfire stoked by strong winds and fed by dry timber and underbrush made a push to the north Saturday, forcing more evacuations of high-priced homes just outside of the posh, central Idaho ski town of Ketchum. Despite the adverse conditions and extreme fire behavior, some progress was made on the Beaver Creek Fire's south end, where fire crews conducted mop-up along the borders of blackened foothills west of the Hailey. So far, more than 2,300 residences have been evacuated since lightning ignited the fire Aug. 7. The fire grew to 144-square-miles Friday night, but fire managers say they won't have an accurate assessment of its size until Saturday night when a plane with infrared cameras will fly over the burn.

Asia

34 dead, 80 missing in sunken PH ferry

AP

Volunteers search near the bow-damaged cargo ship *Sulpicio Express Siete* Saturday Aug. 17, 2013, a day after it collided with a passenger ferry off the waters of Talisay city, Cebu province in central Philippines.

CEBU, Philippines (AP)—Divers plucked two more bodies from a sunken passenger ferry on Sunday and scrambled to plug an oil leak in the wreckage after a collision with a cargo ship. The accident near the central Philippine port of Cebu that has left 34 dead and more than 80 others missing.

Cebu Governor Hilario Davide III said 751 passengers and crewmen of the MV *Thomas Aquinas* have been rescued after the inter-island ferry was in a collision late Friday with the MV *Sulpicio Express Siete* then rapidly sank off the Cebu pier.

Stunned passengers were forced to jump in the dark into the water after the captain ordered the doomed ferry abandoned.

Coast guard, navy and fishing vessels, backed by helicopters, scoured the choppy seas off Talisay city in Cebu, about 570 kilometers (350 miles) south of Manila, Sunday but found no sign of any more survivors. Divers, however, retrieved the bodies of a man and a woman in the ferry, which sank in waters about 33 meters (100 feet) deep.

"We're still on a rescue mission," Davide told reporters. "We have not given up on them."

Relatives flocked to a ticketing office of ferry owner, 2GO Group Inc., and pasted pictures of their missing loved ones. Others, like Richard Ortiz, waited quietly and stared blankly at the vast sea from the Talisay pier, where coast guard and navy rescuers have encamped.

"I just want to see my parents," said Ortiz, who clutched a picture of his father and mother. "This is so difficult."

Amid initial confusion over the number of ferry passengers and the missing, Cebu coast guard chief Commodore William Melad said authorities reported that there were 870 people on board the ferry, including 754 passengers and 116 crewmen. The more than 30 crewmen of the MV *Sulpicio Express Siete* cargo ship, which had a huge gaping hole in its bow, were all safe, officials said.

Transportation and Communications Secretary Joseph Abaya said Saturday there were foreigners among the ferry passengers and all were fine, except for a New Zealand citizen who was brought to a hospital.

Coast guard deputy chief Rear Adm. Luis Tuason said some of the missing could still be trapped in the sunken ferry, which has been leaking oil.

In a statement, 2GO said the ferry "was reportedly hit" by the cargo vessel "resulting in major damage that led to its sinking." An investigation will begin after the rescue operation, the coast guard said.

Abaya said the cargo vessel, which was leaving the Cebu pier, smashed into right side near the rear of the ferry which was coming in from Nasipit in Agusan del Sur province in the southern Philippines and making a short stop in Cebu before proceeding to Manila.

Outbound and incoming ships are assigned separate routes in the narrow passage leading to the busy Cebu pier and an investigation would determine if one of the vessels strayed into the wrong route and sparked the accident, which happened in relatively calm weather, coast guard officials said.

"There was probably a non-observance of rules," Melad told a news conference in Cebu on Sunday, suggesting human error may have been a factor in the accident. He stressed, however, only an investigation that would start after the search and rescue mission, would show what really happened.

ASIAN BRIEFS

2 police killed days after Indonesian terror raids

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—Unidentified gunmen killed two police officers near Indonesia's capital, days after security forces made multiple arrests and killed suspects in anti-terrorism raids, police said Saturday. Two men on a motorbike followed an officer who was heading to a police precinct in Tangerang, on the outskirts of Jakarta, on Friday night. They shot him dead and fled, said National Police spokesman Maj. Gen. Ronny Frengky Sompie. They were pursued by a police car that hit the motorbike before plunging into a drain. Sompie said the gunmen then killed another officer in the car.

Insurgents kill 10 at Afghan construction camp

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Insurgents staged a pre-dawn ambush on a construction camp in Afghanistan's western Herat province on Saturday, killing 10 people in one of several deadly attacks across the country overnight and in the morning. Nine construction workers and a policeman were killed when insurgents attacked the camp in Herat's Karukh district with rocket-propelled grenades and automatic weapons, Deputy Public Works Minister Ahmad Shah Wahid said.

Floods in China's northeast kill 25

BEIJING (AP)—At least 25 people have died in storms and floods in China's northeast in the past week, local authorities and state media reported. Civil affairs officials in Heilongjiang province said late Friday that the disasters killed 11 people and left three missing in the province. The official Xinhua News Agency said the death toll had risen to 14 Saturday in the neighboring province of Jilin.

World

Egypt: Islamists hit Christian churches

CAIRO (AP)—After torching a Franciscan school, Islamists paraded three nuns on the streets like "prisoners of war" before a Muslim woman offered them refuge. Two other women working at the school were sexually harassed and abused as they fought their way through a mob.

In the four days since security forces cleared two sit-in camps by supporters of Egypt's ousted president, Islamists have attacked dozens of Coptic churches along with homes and businesses owned by the Christian minority. The campaign of intimidation appears to be a warning to Christians outside Cairo to stand down from political activism.

Christians have long suffered from discrimination and violence in Muslim majority Egypt, where they make up 10 percent of the population of 90 million. Attacks increased after the Islamists rose to power in the wake of the 2011 Arab Spring uprising that drove Hosni Mubarak from power, emboldening extremists. But Christians have come further under fire since President Mohammed Morsi was ousted on July 3, sparking a wave of Islamist anger led by Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood.

Nearly 40 churches have been looted and torched, while 23 others have been attacked and heavily damaged since Wednesday, when chaos erupted after Egypt's military-backed interim administration moved in to clear two camps packed with protesters calling for Morsi's reinstatement, killing scores of protesters and sparking deadly clashes nationwide.

One of the world's oldest Christian communities has generally kept a low-profile, but has become more politically active since Mubarak was ousted and Christians sought to ensure fair treatment in the aftermath.

Many Morsi supporters say Christians played a disproportionately large role in the days of mass rallies, with millions demanding that he step down ahead of the coup.

Despite the violence, Egypt's Coptic Christian church renewed its commitment to the new political order Friday, saying in a statement that it stood by the army and the police in their fight against "the armed violent groups and black terrorism."

Iraq premier warns of weapons smuggled from Syria

BAGHDAD (AP)—Iraq's prime minister warned Saturday that weapons and fighters flowing into Syria are now making their way to Iraq, as a rising tide of violence sweeps across the country.

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki said that weapons provided by some countries to the Syrian rebels and foreign fighters attempting to topple Syrian President Bashar Assad, are now ending up in Iraq.

"The weapons provided to those killers in Syria have been smuggled to Iraq and those wolves that came from different countries to Syria are now sneaking into Iraq," he said during a youth gathering.

Al-Maliki said that this movement of weapons and fighters is adding to the violence hitting his country.

Iraq officially remains neutral in the Syrian conflict. The Shiite-led government in Baghdad has repeatedly called for a peaceful, political solution to the crisis, though it has also warned that a victory for the rebels would unleash sectarian war in Iraq and Lebanon.

The long and porous Iraqi-Syrian border runs along Iraq's Sunni-dominated provinces of Anbar and Ninevah, and was a key conduit for arms and al-Qaida fighters in the years following the 2003 U.S.-led invasion. Centuries-old cultural and tribal affiliations span the loosely defended desert frontier.

Iraqi border guards frequently clash with militants and smugglers who are attempting to move across the borders.

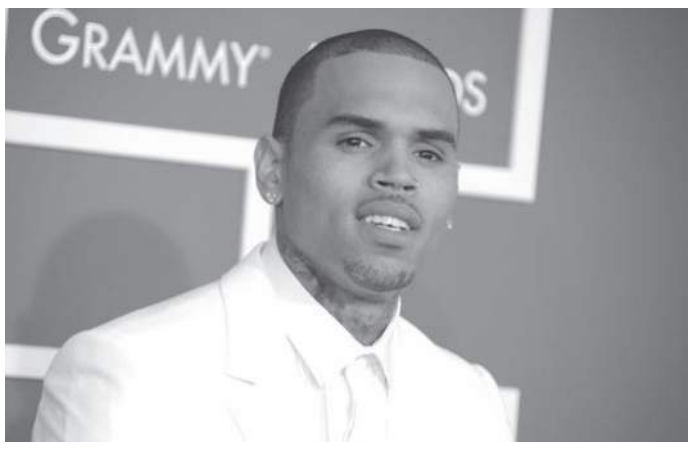
In Saturday's violence, gunmen opened fire on an army checkpoint just south of Baghdad, killing four soldiers and wounding four others.

New mammal
Scientists have discovered a previously unknown species of mammal – the olinguito, a small raccoon-like animal.
A shy bear
First carnivore species discovered in the Western Hemisphere in 35 years
Diet Mainly fruit; some may also eat insects and nectar
Behavior Solitary, mostly nocturnal
Found in Ecuador and Colombia "cloud forests"
Mistaken identity
• Some olinguitos previously thought to be olingos, a larger member of raccoon family
Olinguitos are
• Smaller
• Shorter tail
• Rounder face
• Tinier ears
• Darker fur
Olingo
Olinguito
Bassaricyon Neblina
2.5 ft. (0.8 m)
2 lb. (0.9 kg)
Source: Smithsonian, MCT Photo Service
Graphic: Melina Yingling
© 2013 MCT

Life & Style

Singer Chris Brown sentenced to 1,000 hours labor

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A judge reinstated Chris Brown's revoked probation Friday and gave the singer a new sentence to perform 1,000 hours of community labor such as cleaning beaches or highways, removing graffiti or performing other chores assigned by the probation department.



In this Feb. 10, 2013 file photo, Chris Brown arrives at the 55th annual Grammy Awards, in Los Angeles. AP

Brown's current legal troubles are the latest repercussions of his arrest four years ago for assaulting his former girlfriend, Rihanna.

The popular R&B singer sat in a courtroom for nearly an hour as his lawyer, Mark Geragos, and a prosecutor shuttled in and out of the judge's chambers, with Geragos apparently seeking his client's approval for a plan to keep him from facing more serious consequences.

Superior Court Judge James Brandlin finally emerged and announced that an agreement had been reached.

Deputy District Attorney Mary Murray withdrew a request to rescind Brown's probation because of a hit-and-run charge that was dismissed in another court Thursday.

Brandlin then told Brown he must perform 1,000 hours of community labor with one of four public programs: California Department of Transportation highway cleanup, graffiti removal, beach cleanup or Probation Alternative Work Services.

Brown, 24, didn't speak during Friday's hearing, other than to agree to the deal worked out while he waited in the courtroom with his mother and two other people.

CNN, NBC won't be hosting GOP presidential debates

BOSTON (AP)—The Republican National Committee, responding to plans by two television networks for programs about Hillary Rodham Clinton, approved a resolution Friday to block CNN and NBC from hosting GOP presidential primary debates.

The unanimous vote affirmed RNC Chairman Reince Priebus's threat against the networks if they went ahead with programs about Clinton, a possible Democratic presidential contender. Priebus said CNN has "an obvious bias."

"That's a network that won't be hosting a single Republican primary debate," Priebus declared, receiving a standing ovation from Republican activists from across the country gathered for the committee's summer meeting in Boston.

In a statement, CNN said a division of the company planned to air a documentary about Clinton in 2014.

"The project is in the very early stages of development, months from completion," the CNN statement read. "We encouraged all interested parties to wait until the program premieres before judgments are made about it. Unfortunately, the RNC was not willing to do that."

Meanwhile, the Fox TV Studios has decided not to help produce NBC's "Hillary" miniseries, said Leslie Oren, the company's spokeswoman. Fox's participation attracted attention because it is owned by News Corp. and is a sister company to the Fox News Channel, where the project has come under attack from commentators.

Singer Fergie officially changes her name

NEW YORK (AP)—She's the F to the E, R, G, the I, the E.

Fergie

Fergie has officially changed her name: The singer born Stacy Ann Ferguson is now Fergie Duhamel.

The Grammy winner's representative confirmed the name change Friday.

Fergie is one-fourth of the Black Eyed Peas. She released her solo debut, "The Dutchess," in 2006. It launched five big hits, including "Fergalicious" and "Big Girls Don't Cry."

The 38-year-old singer is married to 40-year-old actor Josh Duhamel (du-MEHL'). She is pregnant with their first child.

Robin Thicke heads to court over 'Blurred Lines'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Robin Thicke is asking a federal judge to determine his song "Blurred Lines" doesn't copy from elements of two other songs.

Attorneys for Thicke and the song's collaborators, Pharrell Williams and T.I., filed a lawsuit in Los Angeles on Thursday asking a judge to determine their song does not copy songs composed by Marvin Gaye and George Clinton.

"Plaintiffs created a hit and did it without copying anyone else's composition," the lawsuit reads.

The suit states representatives of the owners of copyrights to Gaye's song "Got to Give It Up" and Clinton's song "Sexy Ways" have warned Thicke that he and his collaborators have used elements of the songs in "Blurred Lines."

"The basis of the Gaye defendants' claims is that `Blurred Lines' and `Got to Give It Up' `feel' or `sound' the same," the lawsuit states. "Being reminiscent of a `sound' is not copyright infringement. The intent in producing `Blurred Lines' was to evoke an era."

AP

This July 30, 2013 file photo shows Robin Thicke performing on NBC's "Today" show in New York.

Representatives for Thicke and one of the defendants, Gaye's son Marvin Gaye III, didn't immediately reply to emails seeking comment.

"Blurred Lines" is spending its 10th week at No. 1 on Billboard's Hot 100 chart. It has sold 4.6 million tracks. The song's music video features nude models prowling around Thicke, Williams and T.I. It has more than 137 million views and helped propel the song to the top of the charts.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

No charge for Kanye West in LAX paparazzi scuffle

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Kanye West won't face felony charges after being accused of attacking a photographer at Los Angeles International Airport. But he's not completely off the hook. The Los Angeles County district attorney's office said Friday it is declining to prosecute the rapper, but his case will go to the city attorney for possible misdemeanor charges. In the July 19 incident, West scuffled with a member of the paparazzi who staked out the airport to snap celebrity photos. Videos showed West lunging at a photographer's camera and trying to wrestle it away. West has had similar run-ins with paparazzi at LAX in the past. Prosecutors say the photographer did not have a significant injury and it's unknown if his camera was damaged. They also say no weapon was used and West doesn't have a felony record.

Jazz vocalist Jane Harvey dies at 88

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Jane Harvey, the jazz vocalist who performed with the likes of Desi Arnaz, Duke Ellington and Benny Goodman, has died. She was 88. A spokesman for Harvey says the singer died Thursday at her home in Los Angeles after a battle with cancer. Harvey began her career as a performer at Cafe Society in New York. She went on to record such songs as "You Brought a New Kind of Love to Me," "Close as Pages in a Book" and "Only Another Boy and Girl" with the Goodman orchestra. She also recorded "A Rainy Night in Rio" with Arnaz and "A Hundred Dreams From Now" with Ellington. Harvey is survived by her husband, William King, her son Bob Thiele Jr., daughter-in-law Amy Kanter Thiele and a grandson, Owen Thiele.

Husband's retirement is not what it's cracked up to be

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My husband lost his job more than a year ago because his plant closed. He was almost retirement age, so he took an early retirement. The problem is he isn't adjusting well to the change.

He has his hobbies, but he seems to have lost interest in them. He is angry a lot of the time and lost at other times. I understand it's a huge adjustment for him, but I'm concerned that it has been going on too long. I have tried to get him interested in things, but he doesn't take my suggestions well anymore. He thinks I want him out of my hair, but it's not true. I want him to be happy.

I know he's depressed but he denies it. When other people ask how he likes retirement, he says he loves it. I think he feels silly for not enjoying it. He doesn't want to spend money for counseling, even though he knows he can get the fee adjusted according to our income.

I'm at a loss about what to do to help him. He reads your column regularly, and I think he would take seriously any advice you could offer.

CONCERNED WIFE IN MICHIGAN

DEAR CONCERNED WIFE: Retirement is not for everyone, and not everybody "loves it." That's why it's so important that before a person retires, he or she have a plan in place for staying mentally and physically active.

Your husband may have valuable skills he could pass on by mentoring others. He could volunteer in the community, delivering meals to shut-ins, coaching youngsters' sports, help out at the police department or a hospital. All he needs to do is go to his computer and type in "volunteer opportunities in Michigan" to find plenty of opportunities. He can donate as little or as much time as he wants. But first, he will have to admit that he ISN'T loving retirement and needs an outlet. Please make sure he sees this column.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I'm 12, and for the last five months my family hasn't been getting along. We act like we love each other, but I'm not so sure. My mom and dad have been fighting. I saw something Mom left on our computer she had been looking at, and the title was "How to Let Go of Emotions During the Divorce Process." I don't know if my parents are getting a divorce or not, but it's slowly tearing my family apart, and I don't know what to do. What can I do to prevent it?

CONFUSED PRE-TEEN

DEAR CONFUSED: Tell your mother you saw the article she left on the computer, and ask her if she and your dad are separating. If the answer is yes, tell her you hope they're getting counseling.

It is important you understand that while they both love YOU, they have reached a point where their relationship may no longer be working. Much as you might like to, there is nothing you can "do" to head this off because their problem has only to do with them and not you.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I was just wondering why when men drink and get drunk, they always talk about themselves.

HEATHER IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

DEAR HEATHER: They may do it because the alcohol allows them to loosen up and open up. Or, because they think the subject is fascinating, and you are a willing listener.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

■■■

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

IT'S PAST NOON! WHY ISN'T SUSIE WALKING INTO OUR BRILLIANT AMBUSH?! WHERE IS SHE?!
YOU STAY HERE AND GUARD THE WATER BALLOONS. I'LL GO ON A RECONNAISSANCE MISSION AND FIND OUT WHAT SHE'S DOING.
WAIT A MINUTE. WHY CAN'T I GO ON THE RECONNAISSANCE MISSION?
BECAUSE IF YOU GOT CAPTURED, YOU'D TELL SUSIE ANYTHING FOR A TUMMY RUB.
I MIGHT NOT.

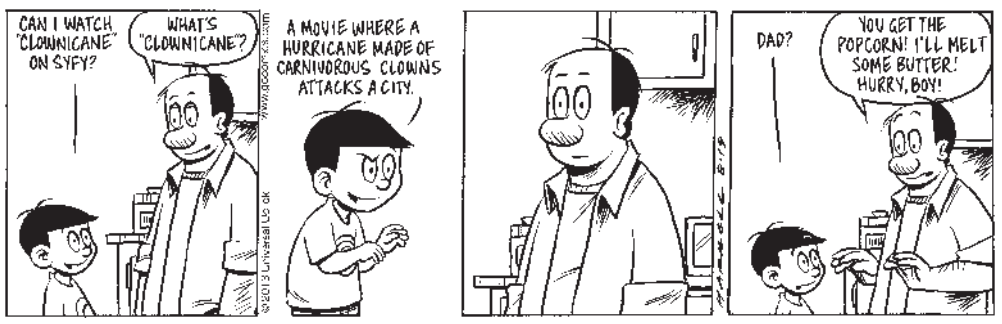
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

IT'S SO HOT OUTSIDE, YOU SWEAT JUST STANDING STILL!
FINALLY, AN EXERCISE PROGRAM FOR YOU
EXCEPT FOR THAT SWEATING PART
JIM DAVIS 8-19

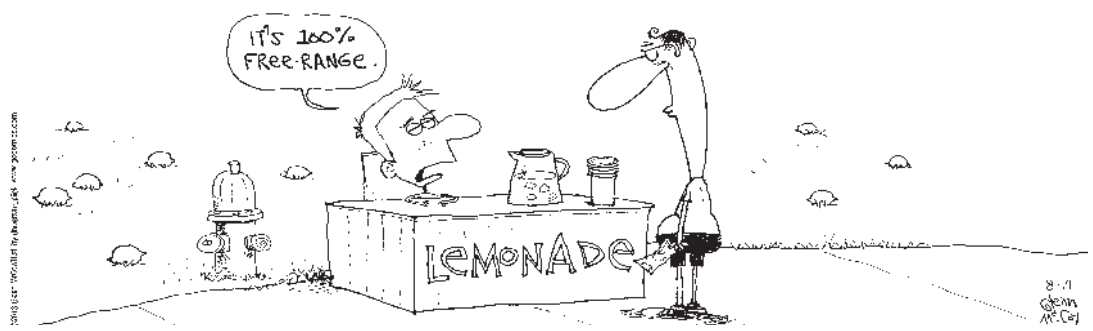
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


CAN I WATCH "CLOWNICANE" ON SYFY?
WHAT'S "CLOWNICANE"?
A MOVIE WHERE A HURRICANE MADE OF CARNIVOROUS CLOWNS ATTACKS A CITY.
DAD?
YOU GET THE POPCORN! I'LL MELT SOME BUTTER! HURRY, BOY!

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

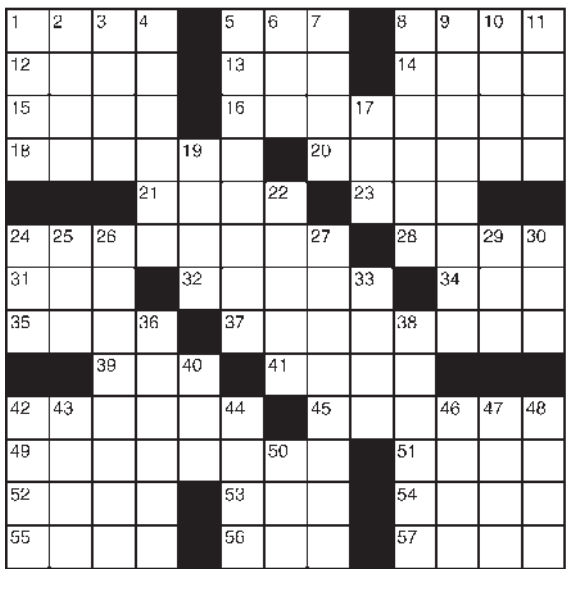
ACROSS
1 Broad
5 Cushion
8 Big name in PCs
12 Diva's offering
13 Individual
14 Un-escorted
15 Welter-weight's weapon
16 Quoits, e.g.
18 Apparel with some-thing to say?
20 Thanks-giving fare
21 Acronym for The Big Easy
23 Deviate off course
24 Noted circus family name
28 Two-masted vessel
31 In favor of
32 Embank-ment
34 Brazilian tourist mecca
35 Repair
37 Curls
39 Try the tea
41 Corporate symbol
42 Neighbor of Washing-ton
45 Badmin-ton exchange
49 Cell phone alert
51 Tradition-al stories
52 Church section
53 "— in victory"
54 Wicked
55 Sly look
56 Opposite of 50-Down
57 Profound

DOWN
1 Float gently
2 Eye part
3 Menu option
4 Gastro-nome's pastime
5 Less slender
6 Blackbird
7 Fender mishap
8 Wander-ing
9 Kitchen props
10 Otherwise
11 Optimistic
17 Fellow
19 Hot dog holder
22 Black-smith's surface
24 Spinning stat
25 Anger
26 "Poppy-cock!"
27 Christo-pher Columbus, by birth
29 Humor
30 — Angeles
33 Frozen waffle brand
36 Backhoe, e.g.
38 Did nothing
40 Cauldron
42 Exam format
43 Mature
44 PBS science show
46 Zero, in tennis
47 One of HOMES
48 Shrill bark
50 Opposite of 56-Across

Solution time: 27 mins.

S	A	P		A	N	N	A		J	E	E	P
I	M	A		B	E	E	B		O	H	E	O
S	P	L	A	S	H	E	D		W	E	L	T
I	S	S	U	E	R		O	W	L			
			G	N	U		M	A	S	H	E	D
S	L	E	E	T		T	E	X		E	R	A
L	I	A	R		S	U	N		H	A	S	T
F	R	R		V	F	X		D	F	I	T	A
D	A	S	H	E	D		P	E	A			
			A	G	A		A	F	R	A	M	E
J	A	Z	Z		T	H	R	A	S	H	E	D
A	L	O	E		E	A	S	T		E	G	G
R	F	F	I		D	Y	F	S		M	A	Y

Friday's answer 8-19



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Tammin Sursok, 30; Matthew Perry, 44; Clay Walker, 44; John Stamos, 50.

Happy Birthday: Take on more responsibility if it will ensure that you will get something in return emotionally, financially or professionally. Venturing off course may be required in order to get things done on time. Embrace new technology if it will give you the control you need to advance. Romance is highlighted and a commitment will enhance your love life. Your numbers are 3, 10, 18, 24, 26, 37, 42.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Choose the people you want in your life carefully and don't be too trusting. You have plenty to gain if you are precise and focus on what's most important to you. Love is on the rise and must not be ignored. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Keep your emotions out of your business affairs. Professionalism will help you maintain your reputation. Concentrate on being productive, not just pleasing everyone around you. Make sure you follow direction from superiors carefully and ask if you see a discrepancy. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Love and romance should be on your agenda. Make sure to socialize and plan a fun way to pamper yourself or do something you find rewarding or pleasing. Follow your heart and share your emotions with someone you want to spend more time with. ✪✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Be discreet regarding money or health issues. Stick to what you know is best for you. An argument will harm a relationship that influences your everyday routine. Adapt in order to take care of the responsibilities you've taken on. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Express your feelings. Clear up a misunderstanding and make plans that will lead to a decision regarding lifestyle and location. Vacation or self-improvement plans will lift your spirits. Love is on the rise, and romance should be scheduled. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Alter your surroundings or find ways to please the people who have something to offer in return. Uncertainty regarding someone you love or want to work with must be dealt with before a problem develops that will hurt your ability to move forward. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Rely on your ability to find solutions and take action. Enjoy the company of others and join in whatever group activities interest you. Love is highlighted. Idle time will lead to anxiety, so be sure to stay busy. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Someone will let you down. Focus on ways to improve your home and domestic situation. Attend a seminar or take a short trip if it will help you find solutions that will make your life better. Expand your interests. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): A job you can do from home will improve your financial situation. A romantic relationship can improve your living situation and ease your stress. Take responsibility for your actions so that you can move on without regret or worry. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Take care of any ailment or injury before it escalates. A partnership will take an unexpected turn. Don't show surprise if you want to remain in control. Make your thoughts clear and prepare to follow the direction that suits you best. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Express your thoughts and don't hesitate to make the alterations necessary to follow your aspirations. Honesty will allow you the freedom to make the changes you need to instigate without feeling guilty. Creativity is highlighted and can help you increase your income. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Expand your interests and get involved in projects that are unusual. Invest in your talent, skills and ability to make a difference. Your intuition will lead you in the right direction. Network with those you want to work with in the future. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are a strong competitor, a humanitarian and a do-gooder.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

8						3		5
	5		3	8	6		7	
9		7				8		
	9		8		2		4	
	4			6			9	
	8		9		7		1	
		8				1		9
	2		7	1	3		8	
1		4						2

Difficulty Level ★ 8/19

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

9	8	4	3	1	5	2	6	7
7	3	6	2	9	4	1	5	8
1	2	5	7	6	8	4	3	9
5	4	9	6	8	1	3	7	2
6	1	3	5	2	7	9	8	4
8	7	2	9	4	3	5	1	6
3	5	8	4	7	2	6	9	1
4	6	1	8	5	9	7	2	3
2	9	7	1	3	6	8	4	5

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 8/16

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

INSTAGRAM **Solution: 7 letters**

D	R	H	L	P	S	I	T	N	U	O	C	C	A	T
I	E	C	L	L	N	P	S	I	K	E	L	V	I	N
G	W	R	A	K	A	O	U	U	O	E	E	D	C	E
I	O	A	W	T	R	M	S	O	T	R	E	F	N	P
T	L	E	A	I	E	T	R	D	R	R	A	S	E	Y
A	L	S	R	S	T	A	S	O	U	G	O	M	L	H
L	O	T	E	I	S	P	C	T	N	H	T	U	A	N
S	F	N	E	V	A	S	C	I	S	W	E	I	V	A
T	C	E	K	M	O	E	D	P	E	R	A	Ⓣ	S	S
C	A	M	L	C	T	A	R	N	R	S	N	Ⓐ	F	H
E	P	M	R	I	O	I	R	O	E	O	I	Ⓖ	A	V
F	T	O	H	L	V	L	F	R	T	I	F	R	M	I
F	U	C	P	A	E	E	B	O	E	A	R	I	I	L
E	R	U	T	A	N	E	W	S	L	I	T	F	L	L
A	E	E	Z	I	L	A	I	C	O	S	S	E	Y	E

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Last Friday's Answer: Aqua Musicals

To purchase **WONDERWORD** books, visit wonderword.universaluclick.com or call 1-800-642-6480.

CLASSIFIED ADS

WHATZIT Solution: Skating on thin ice

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Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Find today's solution in classified section

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

1 – HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

High school diploma with (5) years minimum work related experience. Able to operate several types of heavy equipment including but not limited to Backhoe/Loader, Road Roller, Tractor/Trailer Combo, Bulldozer, Hydraulic Crane. Load weights and check them against lifting capacities to prevent overload. Move levers, depress foot pedals, or turn dials to operate cranes, or other moving equipment for lifting, moving, or placing loads. Learn and follow safety regulations. Take actions to avoid potential hazards or obstructions, such as utility lines, other equipment, other workers, or falling objects. Clean, lubricate and inspect mechanisms or accessories such as cables, pulleys, or grappling devices to prevent malfunctions or damage. Perform routine maintenance of equipment. Must have knowledge in troubleshooting and able to diagnose problem or malfunction and make repairs as necessary.

Interested qualified applicants can submit their resume and latest police clearance via e-mail to saipan@aicconstruction.com or mail to AIC Marianas, Inc., PMB 564 PPP Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950.
Closing date: August 22, 2013.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Century Tours, Inc. is inviting qualified U.S. workers to fill the following positions:

Reservation Supervisor (01)

Job Duties: Assists in managing all staff in the Reservations Department to ensure the highest standard of performance from the team. Manages all reservations and ensures that it meets requirement. Deal with all related administration and establish a close working relationship with all colleagues to ensure guest's expectations are met. Provide training and development for employees in reservation, sales techniques, company policy and procedures, and revenue management. Ensure knowledge of product, client relationships and services is maintained and communicated to all relevant personnel. Maintain effective working relationships with clients. Develop strong working relationships with all customers in order to maximize sales opportunities and generate business for the future. Works closely with Reservation Manager & other Department managers to maximize occupancy of rooms and meetings, rates, yield and average spending by implementing appropriate training and communication systems. Also evaluates sales performance and product on a regular basis in order to recognize challenges for the future. Actively seek all sales and revenue opportunities both internal and external to increase the profile of company. Ensure that billing and credit agreements are managed and controlled. Should be flexible and adaptable according to business/project adjustment. Responsible for required reports and maintaining records. Other duties as assigned.

Requirements: High school diploma and College Majors in Tourism and Travel Services Management is preferred. Previous 3-5 years work-related skill, knowledge, or experience is required. Has high attention to details. Creative and able to work with a team. Good command of computer skills (such as Microsoft Office) and internet applications. Has good negotiation and communication skills. Able to solve problems. Has public relations skills and is able to deal with emergencies. English and Chinese speaker preferred.

Cashier (01)

Job Duties: Receiving cash and checks and issuing receipt vouchers. Processes credit card payments. Collects batches by receiving checks. Delivers daily batches to accounting. Records the receipts in the cashbook on daily basis. Issues daily reports and cash counts to financial manager. Delivers checks to vendors. Handles the disbursement function. Deposits checks and hands vouchers to accounting daily. Reconciles funds and handles petty cash. Uses cashbook on daily basis. Work closely with vendors in regards to inquiries, concerns or check pick-up. Attend events such as luncheons, breakfasts and committees to collect the entrance fees. Reconciles the checkbooks. Other duties as assigned.

Requirements: High school diploma and above level certificate is preferred. Previous at least 1 year work-related skill, knowledge, or experience is required. Has high attention to details. Able to work with a team. Good knowledge of computer skills (such as Microsoft Office) and internet applications. Has good negotiation and communication skills. English and Chinese speaker preferred.

Salary will be paid and positions will be filled commensurate with qualification, work experience and ability to perform. Worksite locations are on Saipan and at all Century Tours, Inc. offices. Applications may be obtained at the Century Tours, Inc. Office at the Kanoa Resort Ground Floor located on Beach Road in Susupe, Saipan while resumes may be emailed at camille.orallo@saipan.travel. All resumes and applications must be submitted to the Human Resources Department at the Century Tours, Inc. Front Office no later than Wednesday, August 21, 2013. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

We are an Equal Employment Employer.
Women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Century Insurance Company Ltd. is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

Accountant
Must be a college graduate in Finance and Accounting with at least 5 years work-related experience in insurance financial reporting and general accounting procedures with emphasis on receivable, payable, and investment management. Proficient in SAP R3 FICO system, MS Word and Excel software. Good analytical ability and proficient knowledge in use of computers. Must be able to work under time pressure and work flexible hours.

Accounting Manager
Bachelor's degree in Business Administration major in accounting with a minimum 5 years experience in insurance financial management and possess good management ability. Proficient in MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, SAP R3 FICO system, and the insurance Geniisys program. Must possess good understanding of government and regulatory compliance procedures and requirements, excellent communication skills, as well as experience in interpreting financial reports. Preparation of NAIC Annual & Quarterly Statements, knows how to understand actuarial reports and auditing experience an advantage.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Century Insurance Company Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Thursday, August 29, 2013.

Century Insurance Company Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

EMPLOYMENT

(3) Teacher - Salary $5.75p/h. 3-4 yrs experience required. Call St. Joseph Catholic School at 433-7527.

(1) Teacher Aide - Salary $5.75p/h. 3-4 yrs experience required. Call St. Joseph Catholic School at 433-7527.

5 - Waiter / Waitress $5.55/hr and 2 - Network & Computer Systems Administrator $10/hr. Call MTO Maintenance (Saipan), Inc. Tel. # 989-0917

1 - Radiology Technologist (Mammography), $18.50/hr. Call Precision Medical Imaging, LLC Tel#233-4582

(1) General Maintenance – Salary $5.55p/h. 1 years experience required. Call Habibur Rahman/ Rahman Enterprise at 285-2504.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. $250/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Small 3BR & 2BTH. Unit approximately 600 sq.ft. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. $450/mo. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $600/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $550. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

WANTED TO BUY

We buy broken game consoles/laptops/tablets/smartphones/cameras. Also, buying fish/fruits. Yan Store 287-6686.

HAFADAI BEACH HOTEL
P.O. BOX 500338 SAIPAN, MP 96950-0338
TEL: (670) 234-6495 to 98 FAX: (670) 237-2529

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Open Date: 8/14/13 **Closing Date: 8/23/13**

Position: **(1) Supervisor, Dining Room**
Salary: $7.76 per hour
Job Qualification: College Graduated (2) Years Experience, Chinese Speaking.

Position: **(2) Housekeeping Cleaner**
Salary: $5.55 per hour
Job Qualification: High School Graduated / (2) Years Experience.

Position: **(1) General Maintenance**
Salary: $5.55 per hour
Job Qualification: High School Graduated (2) Years Experience.

For more information you may contact Mr. Juan I. Tenorio, Manager for Human Resources Department at (670) 234-6495/8 ext. 5840/2.
Employment application forms are available at Hafadai Beach Hotel, Human Resources Department.

AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER

3 STOREY BUILDING
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- 1st Floor – COMMERCIAL SPACE
- 2nd Floor APT UNITS Fully Furnished
  Three (3) 2 bedrooms, 1bathroom
- 3rd Floor – APT UNIT Fully Furnished
  One (1) 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom

Location: Beach Road, near Micro1 Toyota

Call Erick at 235-3133/287-9012

Warehouse for RENT

REM GUALO RAI
Warehouse #3 - Size: 4,000sq/ft
Warehouse #2 - Size: 2,000sq/ft
$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable

REM LOWERBASE
Warehouse #4 - Size: 9,000sq/ft
Warehouse #2 - Size: 6,000sq/ft
$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEAS CALL 235-6527/28 or 285-1317

Vacancy Announcement

(1) Accounting Clerk - Atleast 2 yrs. experience. Proficient in various computer software, such as MS Excel, Word, Peach Tree & other Accounting Softwares.

Submit Applications To:
Pam Pacific Enterprises corp.
(670)235-7270

Vacancy Announcement

(5) Screen Printer -Atleast 2 yrs. experience. Knowledge in screen printing equipment & machines. Able to work flexible hours.

Submit Applications To:
Saipan Apparel Printing, LLC.
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(4) Sales Associate – Minimum 3 years experience in selling. Must be able to consistently demonstrate good customer service, preferably knows how to speak and read Chinese and Japanese. Flexible working hours. Rate $5.55/hr.

Applicants should mail their resume with job references to PMB 1118 Box 10003, Saipan, MP 96950 or call 233-0017. American Saipan Best Corporation dba Saipan Best Shopping Market.

Job Vacancy Announcements
US Eligible workers ONLY

(1) Metal & Plastic Fabrication & Finishing Worker – previous 3 years work-related skill, knowledge & experience is required.

send current resume to scsinc.hr@gmail.com
Or submit at Saipan Computer Services, Beach Road, Garapan
Mondays – Fridays 9:30am-11:30am and 2:00pm-4:00pm

Saipan Computer Services, Inc.
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE
Submit applications no later than August 21, 2013.

Job Vacancy Announcement
BRIANNA'S MASSAGE

(1) Attendant

Work Experience: 2 years minimum
Education: Training in vocational schools, related on-the-job experience, or an associate's degree.
• Must possess superb customer service and communication skills. Must be courteous, professional, and helpful toward the public and customers. Able to learn the product and service awareness essential to efficiently give wellness solutions to meet the needs of guests. Can work flexible hours.

Interested applicants may send resume to gloria.fajardo65@yahoo.com
To be considered, resume must be submitted not later than August 22, 2013

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

Computer Technician
Associate's degree in any computer science, information technology or other related areas. Must have at least 3 years of sound experience in electronics and communication systems with emphasis on the repair of computer equipment and installation of telephone/cable systems. Must be knowledgeable in different software applications and in hardware troubleshooting. Must be able to work flexible hours.

Messenger
High school graduate. Dependable attendance, hard working and follows directions well. Good oral and written communication skills and good driving skills are required. Must provide and maintain own vehicle for work and must be available to work early mornings, late nights and weekends.

Vice President
Graduate of a 4-year degree course with a minimum of 8 years of professional progressive management experience and at least 4 years of general management experience in property management, tourism and/or hotel management. Knowledge of lease negotiations plus financial and quality management is required. Must have a solid track record in accomplishing business objectives.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Thursday, August 29, 2013.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
S.B.S INC.

(1) Cook Helper - $ 5.55/hr.

Minimum of 2 years experience in Indian Cuisine

(1) Waitress - $ 5.55/hr.

Minimum of 2 years experience.

Interested applicants may bring their resume to Taste of India Restaurant in Garapan or email it to tasteofindiasaipan@gmail.com

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Job Vacancy Announcement

(7) Sales Attendant: Must be a friendly, helpful, and responsible; provide speedy and reliable services.

(4) Cashiers: knowledge in customer service principles and performing basic mathematical calculations. With high attention to details.

(1) Team Leader: with 2 years supervisory work experience particularly in hospitality industrial, customer service, and book keeping. Good knowledge of computer skills. Proficient communications skills. With good moral character and public relations skills.

Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

Interested applicants must submit resume via email including references at jpworldcorporation@gmail.com

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Saipan Tribune, Inc. is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

Accounting & Circulations Manager
College degree with financial management major and 3 years of progressive financial management and newspaper circulation experience. Minimum of 5 years experience in directing the preparation of financial reports and implementing cash management and newspaper circulation activities. Excellent communication and strong interpersonal skills to manage a work team and independent contractors. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) system and Microsoft software.

Graphic Designer (3)
Associate's degree in Graphic Design or other related field. Minimum of 3 years work experience doing computer graphics and newspaper layout. Proficiency in Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator and Adobe InDesign is a must. Must be familiar with offset printing process, computer peripherals, and Mac operating system. Strong organizational and self-management skills, including the ability to multitask and prioritize are required. Can work flexible hours, weekends, and holidays, depending on demand.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Saipan Tribune, Inc. office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Thursday, August 29, 2013.

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Looking for a way to tell everyone about your business?

You're looking at it!

Saipan Tribune **235-6397**

LOST DOG

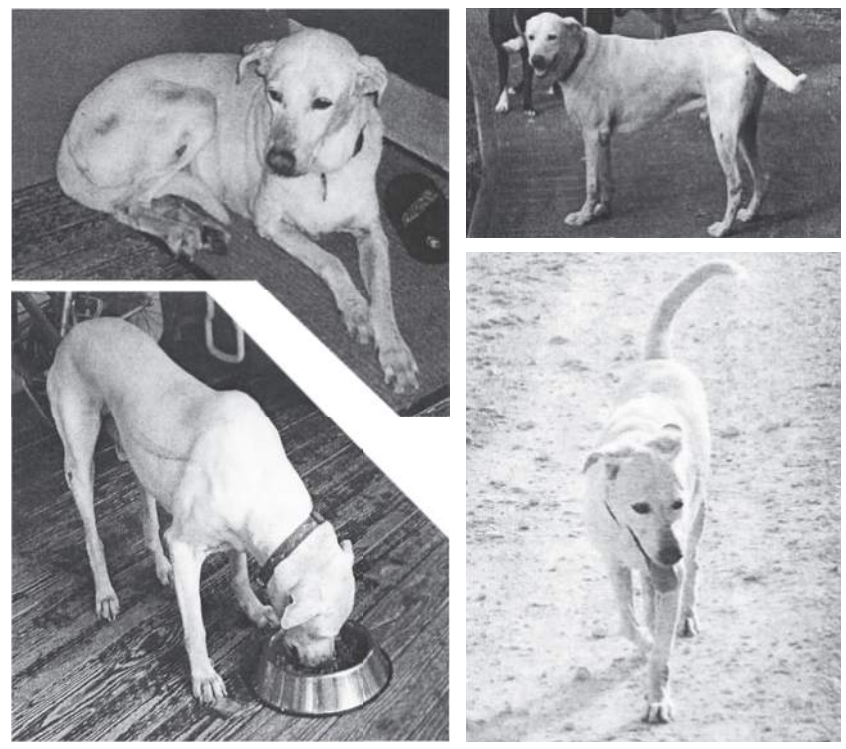
Name: **Op (pronounced "awp")** Sex: **male**
Color: **off-white** Age: **14**
Build: **large** Collar: **chili-pepper design (faded)**

He is scared of thunder and fireworks.
Disappeared from As Matuis home night of July 19-20 during thunderstorm.
Possibly sighted around July 29-31 near Bird Island lookout in Marpi.

Contact:

Jed at 322-3379 (home) or 234-5684 (work)
Noi at 322-3379 (home), 483-4479 (cell) or noihorey@yahoo.com

$$ REWARD!! $$



Kanoa Resort
Saipan

OPERATIONS MANAGER

Our Resort is looking for a dynamic candidate with a strong and all around experience in Hotel operations. The Operations Manager shall assist the General Manager in developing and executing business plans and will be responsible for keeping a perfect coordination between all departments with focus on guest satisfaction, development of people, financial results and quality assurance.

As the Operations Manager, the responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Assisting in the day-to-day management of the Resort and its staff, budgeting and financial management, planning, organizing and directing of all Resort services, including Front Office, (reception, concierge, reservations), Housekeeping and Engineering functions
- Writing and reviewing reports, monitoring department operations, ordering inventory, and conducting operations/service reviews
- Regular ongoing monitoring of staff to ensure the adherence to pre-established policies and procedures and find ways to address problems and improve guest services
- Daily property inspections and interaction with everyone from employees to management to guests and other stakeholders

Qualifications:

- Minimum Education: Associate's Degree preferably in Tourism, Hotel & Restaurant or Business Management
- Minimum Experience: Two years of experience in a similar role or in a high volume hospitality environment at a managerial level in Rooms Reservations and Front Office or operations
- Ability to work flexible hours including nights, weekends, and holidays
- Must possess strong leadership and communication skills. Organized, motivated, analytical and creative, as well as comfortable in directing others
- Must be proficient in various computer software applications and has a proven track record of meeting budgets, an understanding of P&L statements and cost/inventory control

Interested applicants may send their applications to hr@kanoaresort.com. Application Forms may be obtained at our Security Office located at the back wing of our Resort. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than September 13, 2013. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Kanoa Resort is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

Kobe not sure he'll be ready for Lakers' opener

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Kobe Bryant isn't sure he'll be ready to play when the Los Angeles Lakers open the season on Oct. 29, although he remains ahead of schedule in rehabbing his surgically repaired Achilles' tendon.

Bryant turns 35 next week and he vowed that his 17-year career is "definitely not over."

"I just want that jewelry," he said, referring to the possibility of claiming his sixth NBA championship.

"People just don't understand how obsessed I am with winning."

Bryant made his comments to late night host Jimmy Kimmel during "Kobe Up Close," a one-on-one conversation with the NBA superstar on Thursday night at Nokia Theatre across from Staples Center.

He had a one-word answer when Kimmel asked whether he would finish his career with the only team he's ever played for: "Yeah," Bryant replied.

The 7,100-seat venue was full of Bryant's fans that cheered, jeered and interrupted freely during the one-hour program. Ticket proceeds benefited the Kobe and Vanessa Bryant Family Foundation, which works to help end homelessness.

In keeping with the reason for the event, Kimmel asked, "If there was only one homeless person in the world, would you be happy if it was Dwight Howard?"

The audience roared, mere weeks removed from Howard's decision to leave the Lakers for Houston after one season.

"Dwight is a great kid," Bryant said, nearly drowned out by boos. "We have different perspectives on what it takes to win."

Kimmel kept the questions light while touching on a variety of topics well known to Bryant's most ardent fans.

Bryant recalled that before he was drafted in 1996 by Charlotte and then traded to the Lakers, he worked out for Boston and the Clippers.

"I had a really fun and good workout with the Clippers," he said. "They told me, `This is the best workout we've ever seen.'"

But he said the team told him it wouldn't be drafting him out of high school.

"We want to turn things around with our organization and we felt like if we drafted a 17-year-old kid, the city of L.A. wouldn't take us seriously," Bryant said the Clippers told him.

Kimmel retorted, "They always make the best decisions."

Bryant said Chris Paul should have ended up with the Lakers instead of the Clippers. The NBA office, which owned New Orleans at the time, decided against a deal team officials had agreed to with the Lakers.

"Chris called me and told me it was a done deal," Bryant said. "Then he calls me back 30 minutes later and says, `You won't believe it. David Stern killed the deal.'"

AP

Los Angeles Lakers' Kobe Bryant smiles during a one-on-one conversation with talk show host Jimmy Kimmel at Nokia Theatre on Thursday, Aug. 15, 2013, in Los Angeles.

Before Bryant jumped directly from high school to the pros, he said he was recruited by Duke, North Carolina, Kansas and West Point. The military academy sent him his first college letter.

If he had gone to college, Bryant said he likely would've chosen North Carolina because Vince Carter had gone to Chapel Hill the previous year, and Bryant would have wanted to compete with him at practice every day.

As a teenager with a lucrative NBA contract, Bryant said he wasn't interested in big expenditures.

"The game consumed me," he said.

Bryant recalled his first meeting with Shaquille O'Neal over dinner at a Beverly Hills restaurant.

"I thought it was the coolest thing in the world that he had a cellphone that was the biggest in the world," he said.

Together, they won three consecutive NBA titles from 2000-02. But they eventually fell out and O'Neal was traded after the Lakers lost in the 2004 finals.

"It was a tough period. He and I just weren't going to play together anymore," Bryant said. "I had to prove I could win without him."

It would take a while, though. Bryant and the Lakers didn't capture another NBA title until they won two straight in 2009 and 2010.

Bryant credited Michael Jordan for giving him "phenomenal advice" on how to elevate his teammates.

"My demeanor and my temper probably calmed down a little bit," he said. "I go into games today looking at what are my guys going through, who is struggling, what can I do to help."

Among the famous faces in the audience were Lakers owners Jeanie and Jim Buss, general manager Mitch Kupchak, Hall of Fame baseball player Dave Winfield and former NFL receiver Terrell Owens.

Jeanie Buss was visibly touched when Bryant spoke about why so many Lakers players loved her late father, Jerry.

"He knew exactly what his vision was," Bryant said. "He was very patient, he was very understanding. He allowed me room to grow as a person."

Bryant said his daughters, ages 10 and 7, are playing sports, although he didn't specify which ones.

He described them as "insanely, insanely competitive."

Settlement reached in Penn State-Sandusky scandal

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP)—A young man who testified he was fondled by former Penn State assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky has reached a settlement that gives him some peace of mind while putting the university in a better position to recover the money through a third party, the man's attorney says.

The settlement is the first among dozens of claims made against the school amid the Sandusky child sex abuse scandal.

The *Philadelphia Inquirer* first reported that the young man known as "Victim 5," who took the stand at Sandusky's criminal trial and sentencing last year, settled for several million dollars.

Attorney Tom Kline confirmed the deal to The Associated Press on Saturday, but would not specify the dollar amount. He said the parties signed off on the agreement Friday.

Kline said his 25-year-old client was relieved and expected to receive the money within a month. The man identified himself for his testimony, but AP generally does not identify people who are victims of sex crimes.

The paper reported the deal is the first of 26 settlements expected soon among 31 young men who have pressed claims over Sandusky's actions and the school's response.

Kline told the AP that as part of the agreement, his client assigned his claim to Penn State, effectively giving the university a better chance to recover the money from other parties, such as The Second Mile, a charity for at-risk youth that Sandusky founded.

University officials "left themselves a wide open road to recover a significant amount of this money back from their insurers and Second Mile. And we support that," Kline said.

Michael Rozen, one of the lawyers brought in by Penn State to resolve the civil claims, told the paper that Victim 5's case was considered among the more serious because the abuse occurred in August 2001, months after top school officials were informed by a graduate assistant that he saw Sandusky assaulting a boy in a team shower.

"The pivotal issue from the university's perspective in dealing with the victims is where the incident occurred and when it occurred proximate to the 2001 shower incident," Rozen told the paper.

A spokesman for the university declined comment Saturday on the deal, saying the school "continues to make progress on multiple settlements."

At Sandusky's trial, Victim 5 testified that he met the coach at a Second Mile camp in 1999 and went to Penn State games with him. He said that Sandusky groped him in the showers during a workout.

Kline said the agreement does not prevent Victim 5, who lives outside Philadelphia, from talking or writing about his experience, although he has no plans to do so.

"We hope that there is closure, but I can tell you on his behalf that he understands there (are) continuing proceedings, because this case has had, and continues to have, many long tentacles," Kline said.

Victim 5 was among eight young men who testified at Sandusky's trial about abuse that included fondling and rape, including incidents on school property.

Penn State announced a year ago—the day Sandusky was convicted of 45 criminal counts—that it hoped to compensate his victims fairly and quickly. Penn State's trustees have authorized some $60 million to be used for settlements.

Sandusky, 69, is serving a 30- to 60-year state prison sentence for child molestation and related offenses.

He spent three decades at Penn State under former head coach Joe Paterno, and met some of his victims through The Second Mile, which he continued to operate after he retired from Penn State in 1999.

A 1998 complaint about Sandusky showering with a boy—one of those who testified against him—was investigated by university police but no charges were filed. A graduate assistant, Mike McQueary, witnessed a different incident in the team shower in 2001 and notified Paterno and other high-ranking school officials, but police were not called.

The response of university leaders, including Paterno, was heavily criticized in a report commissioned by the school last year. Paterno died in January 2012, but criminal charges for an alleged cover-up are pending against three others: former president Graham Spanier, retired vice president Gary Schultz and retired athletic director Tim Curley. All three deny the allegations.

Penn State had fostered an image of a model football program under Paterno, whose statue outside the football stadium was taken down after the scandal broke.

The school has spent nearly $50 million on the Sandusky scandal, not including any payments to the victims and accusers.

Cabrera HR lifts Tigers to 6-5 win over Royals

DETROIT (AP) — A hobbled Miguel Cabrera led off the bottom of the ninth inning with his 39th home run, lifting the Detroit Tigers over the Kansas City Royals 6-5 on Saturday night.

Cabrera has been slowed by a strained lower abdomen, injured hip and banged-up left leg, but he was healthy enough to take a victory lap.

Joaquin Benoit (3-0) pitched a scoreless ninth. Aaron Crow (7-4) threw five pitches, with Cabrera hitting a 3-1 offering for an opposite-field homer to right.

Prince Fielder hit a tie-breaking solo homer in the Detroit seventh and made a good defensive play at first base in the ninth.

Hours earlier, Royals infielder Miguel Tejada was suspended 105 games by Major League Baseball after testing positive for an amphetamine. The 2002 AL MVP was already on the 60-day disabled list.

Red Sox 6, Yankees 1

In Boston, Jacoby Ellsbury had three hits, David Ortiz homered and John Lackey held down New York's resurgent offense as the Boston Red Sox broke a three-game losing streak by beating the Yankees.

Ortiz, Shane Victorino, Will Middlebrooks, Mike Carp and Daniel Nava each had two hits for the AL East leaders, who won for only the third time in nine games.

Alfonso Soriano singled twice for the Yankees, but was held without an RBI after matching a major league record with 18 over his previous four games. He is 15 for 22 (.682) in his last five games with five homers.

Lackey (8-10) gave up one run and six hits over 6 2-3 innings, ending a career-worst four-game losing streak.

Hiroki Kuroda (11-8) matched a season high by giving up five runs — three earned — and 11 hits in 5 2-3 innings.

Indians 7, Athletics 1

In Oakland, California, Ubaldo Jimenez carried a no-hit bid into the sixth, Nick Swisher and Michael Bourn homered as Cleveland beat Oakland.

Jimenez (9-7) didn't allow a hit until Josh Donaldson lined a run-scoring single to shallow center with two out in the sixth, ending the pitcher's night after 105 pitches. He struck out eight and walked five.

Asdrubal Cabrera drove in two runs and Michael Brantley hit a pair of doubles for Cleveland.

A day after the Indians matched a season high with 13 stranded base runners, they took advantage of timely opportunities.

Swisher drove the first pitch from Dan Straily over the right-field fence for his 13th home run, staking Jimenez to an early lead in the first. Cabrera later added a run-scoring single before hitting an RBI double in the sixth.

Dan Straily (6-7) extended his losing streak to five games.

Blue Jays 6, Rays 2

In St. Petersburg, Florida, J.A. Happ won in his first game at Tropicana Field since an injury three months ago as the Toronto Blue Jays beat the Tampa Bay Rays.

Happ (3-2) suffered a skull fracture and sprained right knee when he fell to the ground after getting hit with a liner by Desmond Jennings on May 7.

Happ allowed two runs and five hits over 5 1-3 innings. It was his third start overall since returning from the disabled list.

Adam Lind homered twice for the Blue Jays. Jose Bautista hit his 28th homer of the season.

Roberto Hernandez (6-13) took the loss.

Rangers 15, Mariners 3

In Arlington, Texas, Jurickson Profar hit an RBI single before scoring in Texas' five-run inning off Felix Hernandez, as the Rangers went on to a victory over Seattle.

The AL West-leading Rangers, who have won 15 of 18 games, finished with a season high in runs after an eight-run eighth in which Profar had another RBI single.

Profar had a nifty slide to score on the bunt by Leonys Martin that dribbled only a few feet in front of the plate in that second-inning outburst. Seattle catcher Henry Blanco pounced on the ball and reached back trying to tag Profar, who made an elusive move to slide around and slap the back tip of the plate.

Rookie left-hander Martin Perez (6-3) pitched into the eighth to win his third consecutive start in August, even after giving up single runs in each of the first three innings.

Hernandez (12-6) had a season-high five walks and allowed five runs and five hits in five innings.

White Sox 8, Twins 5

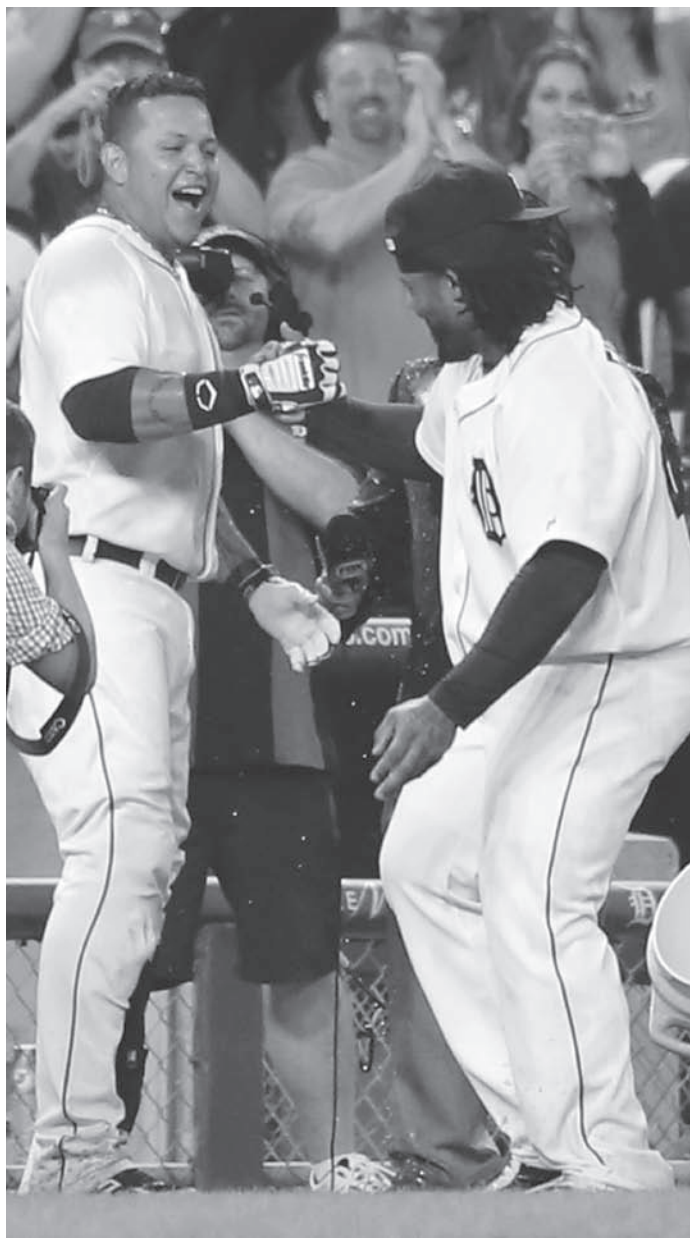
In Minneapolis, Dayan Viciedo hit a three-run homer and Alejandro De Aza added a two-run shot as the Chicago White Sox topped the Minnesota Twins.

Chris Sale (9-11) gave up four consecutive two-out hits in the third inning as the Twins scored three times.

The left-hander won three straight starts for the first time this season, giving up three runs and nine hits in seven innings.

Addison Reed worked a scoreless ninth to record his career-high 30th save in 35 chances.

Andrew Albers (2-1) took the loss after beginning his career with 17 1-3 scoreless innings, a record for a Twins starter. He allowed five runs and eight hits in seven innings.



AP

Detroit Tigers' Miguel Cabrera laughs after Prince Fielder, right, dumped water on him following his walk-off home run in the ninth inning to defeat the Kansas City Royals 6-5 in a baseball game, Saturday, Aug. 17, 2013, in Detroit.

Angels 6, Astros 5, 10 innings

In Anaheim, California, Josh Hamilton homered with one out in the 10th inning to give Los Angeles a victory over Houston.

Mark Trumbo also homered and drove in two more runs with his first triple of the season. Hamilton sent an 0-2 pitch from Josh Fields (1-3) to right-center for his 18th home run.

Ernesto Frieri (1-4) pitched two scoreless innings for the win.

Brett Wallace homered and drove in three runs for the Astros.

Orioles 8, Rockies 4

In Baltimore, Brian Roberts and Manny Machado both hit two-run doubles during a seven-run third inning fueled by Colorado miscues, as the Baltimore Orioles ended a four-game losing streak.

Adam Jones had two hits in Baltimore's highest-scoring inning of the season, which featured an error by shortstop Troy Tulowitzki, two walks, a passed ball and a wild pitch. Six of the seven runs were unearned.

Most of the damage came against rookie Chad Bettis (0-2), who allowed seven hits, four walks and eight runs in 2 2-3 innings.

Bud Norris (9-10) gave up four runs and nine hits over 5 2-3 innings to improve to 3-1 since coming to the Orioles in a trade with Houston on July 31.

Dodgers 5, Phillies 0

In Philadelphia, Clayton Kershaw pitched eight dominant innings as the seemingly unstoppable Los Angeles Dodgers won their 10th straight, beating Philadelphia 5-0 to keep the Phillies scoreless in two games under new manager Ryne Sandberg.

Juan Uribe hit a three-run homer, Kershaw had an RBI double and the NL West-leading Dodgers improved to 25-3 after the All-Star break. They have won 19 of their last 20 road games and are 42-8 overall since June 22, the best 50-game stretch in the majors since the 1942 St. Louis Cardinals had the same record.

The previous team to win 19 of 20 road games was the 1916 New York Giants, according to STATS.

The 10-game winning streak is the longest for Los Angeles since an 11-game run in 2006.

Meanwhile, the skidding Phillies have yet to cross home plate since manager Charlie Manuel was fired Friday in the middle of a second-half swoon. They were blanked 4-0 by Zack Greinke and the Dodgers in Sandberg's debut and have now lost 21 of 25.

Kershaw (12-7) allowed three hits and lowered his NL-best ERA to 1.80. He struck out eight, walked one and earned his first win in nine career games against the Phillies.

Uribe singled and doubled before hitting a three-run shot in the eighth.

Kyle Kendrick (10-10) gave up two runs in six innings.

Nationals 8, Braves 7, 15 innings

In Atlanta, Adam LaRoche led off the 15th inning with a home run as Washington recovered to beat Atlanta after blowing a two-run lead in the ninth.

Nationals star Stephen Strasburg was ejected in the second inning. He hit Justin Upton with a pitch in the first and was tossed after throwing two straight pitches behind Andrelton Simmons.

LaRoche lifted a high fly into the right-field seats for his 18th homer off Kris Medlen (10-11), a starter who was pressed into service after Atlanta exhausted its bullpen. The game lasted 5 hours, 29 minutes.

Jason Heyward hit two homers, including a two-run shot with two outs in the ninth as Nationals closer Rafael Soriano blew a 7-5 lead. Brian McCann and Freddie Freeman also went deep for the Braves.

Ryan Zimmerman homered for Washington and Craig Stammen (6-5) worked three hitless innings, striking out five. Dan Haren, normally a starter as well, pitched the 15th for his first career save.

Atlanta hit Bryce Harper with two pitches Friday night, leaving the outfielder bruised and unable to start on Saturday.

Diamondbacks 15, Pirates 5

In Pittsburgh, Martin Prado went 4 for 5 with a three-run homer, Paul Goldschmidt added a three-run shot and Arizona routed Pittsburgh.

Prado's 11th homer of the season capped a six-run third inning against All-Star lefty Jeff Locke (9-4) and put the Diamondbacks ahead 8-0. Prado has driven in 13 runs in his past 10 games.

Goldschmidt's 30th homer came in the ninth and tied him with Pittsburgh's Pedro Alvarez for the National League lead. Alvarez hit his 30th earlier in the game.

Goldschmidt and Didi Gregorius each had three of the Diamondbacks' 20 hits.

Trevor Cahill (4-10) came off the disabled list and earned his first win since May 17. He went five innings and allowed four runs on seven hits. He had been out since July 1 with a bruised right hip.

Cardinals 4, Cubs 0

In Chicago, Yadier Molina hit a two-run home and Joe Kelly threw six spotless innings as St. Louis beat Chicago.

Cubs shortstop Starlin Castro was pulled shortly after making a mental mistake that let the Cardinals score in the fifth.

Kelly (4-3) hasn't lost since joining the Cardinals rotation on July 6. He allowed four hits, struck out six and walked three.

The Cubs have lost 14 of 19. They have been shut out in five of their last seven games at Wrigley Field.

Molina homered off Travis Wood (7-10) for a 4-0 lead in the sixth.

Brewers 2, Reds 0

In Milwaukee, Yovani Gallardo gave up three hits in 6 1-3 innings and Logan Schafer had a two-run double to snap an 0-for-21 slump and lead Milwaukee over Cincinnati.

Gallardo (9-9), who came off the disabled list Friday, struck out three to help the Brewers to their second straight win over the Reds.

Cincinnati threatened in the seventh, but Brandon Kintzler got pinch-hitter Xavier Paul to ground into an inning-ending double play. Kintzler pitched a scoreless eighth and Jim Henderson struck out the side in the ninth for his 18th save in 21 chances.

Mat Latos (12-4) pitched seven innings for the Reds, giving up six hits. The two runs he gave up in the fourth ended his scoreless streak at 19 innings.

Padres 8, Mets 2

In San Diego, Will Venable had four hits as San Diego got home runs from Nick Hundley and Jedd Gyorko in a victory over New York.

Mets starter Jenrry Mejia left early with discomfort in his surgically repaired elbow and the Padres took advantage when New York's bullpen was pressed into service. San Diego finished with 15 hits in snapping a three-game losing streak.

Edinson Volquez (9-10) worked five innings for the win and Venable extended his career-high hitting streak to 14 games, the longest active run in the National League.

Mets catcher Travis d'Arnaud went 0 for 2 with two walks in his major league debut.

David Aardsma (2-2) took the loss.

Giants 6, Marlins 4

In Miami, Matt Cain pitched seven innings and Gregor Blanco hit a two-run triple to lift San Francisco over Miami.

Pablo Sandoval also drove in two runs for the Giants, a day after they outslugged the Marlins 14-10.

Giancarlo Stanton hit a two-run homer for Miami estimated at 446 feet.

Cain (8-8) allowed two runs and four hits. He struck out five and walked two. Sergio Romo got his 30th save in 34 chances.

Henderson Alvarez (2-2) gave up four runs, four hits and four walks in seven innings.

Huh, Reed share 3rd-round lead at Wyndham

GREENSBORO, North Carolina (AP)—John Huh shot an even-par 70 on Saturday for a share of the lead with Patrick Reed after three rounds in the Wyndham Championship.

Huh, the PGA Tour's reigning rookie of the year, and Reed, the second-round leader who shot a 71, were at 10-under 200.

Zach Johnson had the day's best round—a 66—and was one stroke back along with Bob Estes and John Deere winner Jordan Spieth. Estes shot 68, and Spieth had a 70.

Scores were high and pin placements were tough during a rainy day at Sedgefield Country Club. Play was halted for 2 hours, 59 minutes in the morning while the soaked course could dry out somewhat.

Tour officials moved up Sunday's final-round tee times in an attempt to beat the rain, just as they did for the third round when they sent players off in threesomes at the first and 10th tees.

Play was halted when early morning showers rendered the Donald Ross-designed course unplayable. Rain fell intermittently throughout the day, and though players were allowed to lift, clean and place their golf balls, the conditions played havoc with virtually everyone on the course.

It was the worst total score for a third-round leader since the tournament moved back to this course in 2008. Every other 72-hole leader here in that span was at least 14 under.

Patrick Reed reacts after missing a putt on 17 during the third round of the Wyndham Championship golf tournament at Sedgefield Country Club in Greensboro, N.C., Saturday, Aug. 17, 2013. AP

Only 13 players shot better than par 70, after 78 players did it Thursday and 63 Friday.

Huh began the day one stroke off the lead, but had a triple bogey on the par-4 second to plummet down the leaderboard.

That turned out to be his only bad hole: He followed that with 10 straight pars before he birdied three holes in a four-hole span, landing approach shots on the 13th and 15th holes within inches of the flagsticks.

Reed, the 23-year-old PGA Tour rookie who led by one stroke after two rounds, looked as if he might be in trouble after a pair of bogeys midway through the round dropped him two strokes behind Spieth.

Then Reed got hot.

He made a 20-foot birdie putt on the par-4 14th and followed that with impressive approach shots on the next two holes that left him with birdie putts of 5 feet that he sank, moving him to 11 under.

He was inches from a fourth straight birdie when his putt on the 17th trickled past the cup, and he slipped back to 10 under when his par putt on the 18th trickled inches wide.

Johnson was one of the few players who didn't seem to struggle much on this soggy day, with five birdies during a round that was bogey free until the last hole.

The 2007 Masters champion began the day at 5 under—six strokes behind Reed, but methodically pushed his way up the leaderboard during the round. Then, he surged to the top with two birdies in a four-hole span of the back nine.

He placed his approach shot on the par-4 14th roughly 15 feet from the flagstick and sank that putt to move to 10 under. A three-putt on the 18th for bogey dropped him back.

Charles Howell III was disqualified before starting his round because tour officials said he used a non-conforming driver during the second round.

The weight port cover on his driver came off while he was on the driving range and he played his round Friday with it—which was not allowed.

Howell shot a 68 during that round to move five strokes behind Reed, the two-day leader, but will receive no prize money and no playoff points.

San Nicolas tops SGA July Ace

Ray San Nicolas took the top honors in the Saipan Golfers Association July Ace of the Month Tournament held last July 21 at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

The 13-handicap Nicolas won the monthly competition after recording a net score of 69 after posting a gross score of 82.

Jung Eun Teack and Norman Tenorio settled for second and third place with net scores of 72 and 74, respectively. The 13-handicap Teack came away with a gross of 85, while Tenorio, who has a 25 handicap, shot a raw score of 99.

In the closest to the pin competition, former Superior Court presiding judge Ed Manibusan won hole No. 3 and San Nicolas reigned supreme in hole No. 13. There were no winners on holes No. 7 and 17.

In the longest drives, San Nicolas and Manibusan were at it again with the former finishing without peer in hole No. 2 and the latter winning hole No. 11. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

THREE-PEAT

From Page 28

Mariana Resort then kissed its championship' bid goodbye after missing triples in its next two possessions, while Mobil sealed the three-peat with Pelisamen splitting his charities off a technical foul on Sison (too much complaining), Rabauliman going 2-for-2 after getting a hard foul from the latter, and Jorge De Guzman connecting on a triple from the corner.

Mobil and Mariana Resort arranged their title duel after beating Pacific Islands Club, 86-76, and AXE Proa, 71-70, respectively, last Thursday.

After escaping past the pennant champion Proa, Mariana Resort seemed headed for another down-to-the-wire finish against Mobil, as the first quarter of the finals ended with the eventual champion ahead by only a hair, 16-15. Mobil was still control in the second half, but Mariana Resort remained close before the former broke away midway in the second canto as after Sison's triple tied the game at 46-all, coach Marvin Deocares' wards launched a 14-0 run. However, Mariana Resort came back with a 10-3 windup to slice the deficit to single digits, 56-63, with still one full quarter to go.

A 10-0 run in the first two minutes of the fourth canto gave Mobil its biggest lead, 73-56, but Joyner and company were not ready to throw in the towel yet and dropped a 14-1 bomb to move within four, 70-74, less than six minutes left in the game. However, Mobil countered with a 10-0 run to widen the gap anew. Estolas nailed an undergoal stab, Pelisamen had an and-1 play and a breakaway layup, while Peredo drilled a triple.

Down by double digits again, Mariana Resort made one final comeback bid, but Mobil showed poise in the end to defend its title.

Pelisamen top-scored for Mobil with his 24 points, while Rabauliman and De Guzman chipped in 21 and 17, respectively. The three top scorers for Mobil earned most of their points from the wings, as Mariana Resort's defense failed to react quickly in those extra passes. On offense, Mariana Resort took too many shots from downtown and did not hit triples consistently. The eventual runner-up also missed the contribution of Leo Galarse, who was held to 7 points and two field goals, while Elgene Mangali also had a so-so performance in the finals, firing 9 markers. Paraiso had the best game for Mariana Resort, scoring 26 points, while Joyner also stepped up with his 21 markers.

Meanwhile, PIC won the battle for third place after outclassing AXE Proa in the first game, 85-77.

First Game

PIC 85 – Demapan 23, Barbo 19, Ne. Salem 13, Abuy 13, Babauta 10, Salem, Castro 2, Ni. Salem 2.

Axe Pro 77 – Aranda 18, Tudela 14, Chariton 12, Alegre 9, Barcinas 6, Libuw 6, Villacrusis 5.

Scoring by quarters: 18-23, 39-36, 64-66, 85-77.

Second Game

Mobil 94 – Pelisamen 24, Rabauliman 21, De Guzman 17, Estolas 9, Peredo 6, Gamboa 6.

Mariana Resort 85 – Paraiso 26, Joyner 21, Mangali 9, Moises 7, Galarse 7, Fitial 5.

Scoring by quarters: 16-15, 41-36, 63-56.

LASSITER

From Page 28

while up midway in the second round. However, Lassiter got out of trouble and the heavyweight bout went back down to the canvas.

Kheder employed the same grappling techniques, using his legs and arms to fight Lassiter in the third round, and just when spectators were ready to see the fight go down to the judges' scorecards, the Saipan bet managed to get out of his foe's hold, went on top, and threw a string of strikes.

Meanwhile, though Lassiter and Kheder top-billed ROP 15, it was the stand-up, no holds-bar, punching duel between Kevin "Big Stack" Patubo of Steam Slice and Japan's Tiger Yatsui that drew the loudest cheer from the crowd.

Both heavyweight fighters came rushing toward each other like raging bulls right into the opening bell and though they threw some wayward punches, they still landed heavy strikes. Blood was starting to drop from the left side of Yatsui's left ear after the first round, while Patubo's cheek began to swell. Gassed out after the eventful first round, Yatsui and Patubo just stood up on several occasions in the second round with their hands in fighting position, but once one fighter made a move, the other quickly fought back. The action-packed boxing bout continued in the third round with both fighters' faces taking the punishment, but in the end Patubo got the victory via split decision.

After the exciting Patubo-Yatsui bout came the encounter between Marianas Elite's Derrick "El Peligro" Rangamar and Spike 22's Roman 'Boom Alvarez. The first round of their 135-lb bout was pretty even as fighters felt each other out. Then early in the second round, Rangamar went after Alvarez, trying to pin him down, however, the latter got hold of the former's neck (Guillotine choke) and the Marianas Elite bet tapped out at the 57-second mark of that frame.

Results of the 10 other bouts in ROP 15 will be reported in *Saipan Tribune* later this week.

LEE

From Page 28

2-6, to settle for the runner-up honors. Ren's teammate, Robbie Schorr, also bowed in his consolation match versus another Tahiti bet, Joshua Manate, 4-6, 4-6.

In the boys U15 finale, Tahiti also foiled the CNMI's championship bid, as Christopher Shan swept Cajigan, 6-2, 6-1.

Moris Villanueva was the Commonwealth's other entry to the boys U15 singles and he won his consolation match over Kiribati's Lataisi Mwea, 6-1, 6-1, to finish ninth in the 16-player field.

In the girls U15, Tammy Ackerman prevailed in her bronze medal match against Fiji's Mulan Kamoe. Ackerman won the opening set, 6-3, but missed a straight set victory when Kamoe recovered in the second set, 6-1. The CNMI netter then survived the tough third set, 7-6 (5) to complete the Top 3. Negahr Rastguiy also joined the girls U15 singles and finished seventh after defeating Fiji's Ruby Coffin, 6-4, 6-0,

In the U18 division, Thea Minor triumphed in the all-CNMI third place battle after sweeping Mikayla Lopez, 6-0, 7-6 (5), while Jake Lee rounded out at the No. 5 spot in the boys category after a 6-2, 6-2 win over the Cook Island's Roland Neururer. Amami Sakano and Tommy Choi were ranked fifth and eighth after the former won their consolation game via walkover.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	73	52	.584	_
Tampa Bay	69	52	.570	2
Baltimore	66	56	.541	5 1/2
New York	63	59	.516	8 1/2
Toronto	57	66	.463	15

Central Division

Detroit	72	51	.585	_
Cleveland	66	57	.537	6
Kansas City	64	58	.525	7 1/2
Minnesota	54	67	.446	17
Chicago	48	74	.393	23 1/2

West Division

Texas	71	52	.577	_
Oakland	69	53	.566	1 1/2
Seattle	56	66	.459	14 1/2
Los Angeles	55	67	.451	15 1/2
Houston	40	82	.328	30 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Atlanta	75	48	.610	_
Washington	60	62	.492	14 1/2
New York	56	65	.463	18
Philadelphia	53	69	.434	21Ω
Miami	46	75	.380	28

Central Division

Pittsburgh	72	50	.590	_
St. Louis	70	52	.574	2
Cincinnati	69	54	.561	3 1/2
Milwaukee	54	69	.439	18 1/2
Chicago	53	69	.434	19

West Division

Los Angeles	72	50	.590	_
Arizona	63	58	.521	8 1/2
Colorado	58	66	.468	15
San Francisco	55	67	.451	17
San Diego	55	68	.447	17 1/2

WYNDHAM CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES

GREENSBORO, North Carolina (AP)—Scores Saturday from the $5.3-million Wyndham Championship, played at the par-70, 7,127-yard Sedgefield Country Club Course

THIRD ROUND

Patrick Reed	65-64-71—200
John Huh	68-62-70—200
Zach Johnson	67-68-66—201
Bob Estes	67-66-68—201
Jordan Spieth	65-66-70—201
Robert Garrigus	65-69-68—202
Matt Every	67-67-68—202
Brian Harman	67-66-69—202
Brendan Steele	71-67-66—204
Charlie Beljan	69-67-69—205
Sergio Garcia	65-70-70—205
Alistair Presnell	67-71-67—205
Rory Sabbatini	67-66-72—205
Jim Herman	67-66-72—205
Andres Gonzales	69-67-70—206
Jin Park	67-69-70—206
Trevor Immelman	65-71-70—206
Bryce Molder	66-69-71—206
Bill Haas	69-66-71—206
Hideki Matsuyama	70-65-71—206
Nick O'Hern	68-71-67—206
Scott Gardiner	67-72-67—206
Jeff Maggert	69-68-70—207
Shawn Stefani	67-70-70—207
Matt Jones	65-71-71—207
Ricky Barnes	69-69-69—207
Will Claxton	68-67-72—207
Henrik Norlander	67-68-72—207
Jerry Kelly	68-71-68—207
Ross Fisher	64-69-74—207
Geoff Ogilvy	67-70-71—208
John Senden	66-70-72—208
Robert Streb	68-70-70—208
Colt Knost	69-67-72—208
Webb Simpson	71-67-70—208
Chris DiMarco	70-68-70—208
Brendon de Jonge	70-68-70—208
Andrew Svoboda	65-69-74—208
Ryo Ishikawa	70-69-69—208
Charlie Wi	68-65-75—208
Chris Kirk	66-71-72—209
K.J. Choi	69-68-72—209
Camilo Villegas	69-68-72—209
Paul Haley II	69-68-72—209
Steven Bowditch	71-66-72—209
Boo Weekley	69-67-73—209
Chris Stroud	64-72-73—209
Greg Chalmers	69-69-71—209
J.J. Henry	68-70-71—209
Morgan Hoffmann	65-69-75—209
Ernie Els	71-68-70—209
Tommy Gainey	68-69-73—210
Tom Gillis	69-68-73—210
Cameron Percy	68-68-74—210
Steve LeBrun	68-70-72—210
Sang-Moon Bae	68-70-72—210
Justin Leonard	69-70-71—210
Martin Flores	67-72-71—210
Doug LaBelle II	67-72-71—210
Martin Kaymer	70-68-73—211
Brendon Todd	68-68-75—211
David Toms	72-66-73—211
Robert Karlsson	70-66-75—211
William McGirt	70-68-73—211
Tim Clark	69-70-72—211
Jeff Overton	68-71-72—211
George McNeill	69-68-75—212
Greg Owen	68-69-75—212
Stuart Appleby	66-70-76—212
David Mathis	71-68-73—212
Kevin Chappell	69-69-75—213
Nicholas Thompson	70-69-75—214
Arjun Atwal	69-70-78—217
Charles Howell III	66-68—DQ

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weekend Sports

CNMI athletes stand out in off-island tourneys

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CNMI athletes competed in two off-island tournaments last week and did well in these contests.

In Fiji, the CNMI Junior Tennis Team gained three finals berth and eight semis tickets in the 2013 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships. The Jeff Racesquad was composed of U12's Carol Lee, Tania Tan, Michael Ren, and Robbie Schorr, U15's Tammy Ackerman, Negahr Rastguiy, Christopher Cajigan, and Moris Villanueva, and U18's Thea Minor, Mikayla Lopez, Tommy Choi, Amami Sakano, and Jake Lee.

Over in Guam, the CNMI's Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez and Frank "The Crank" Camacho saw action in PXC 38. Camacho went on to score a TKO win in the third round against Japan's Koshi Matsumoto, while Alvarez debuted in PXC with a victory via unanimous decision versus Guam's Tony "Rush" Reyes.

Back in local competitions, the Emon Lodge and DL Corp. basketball leagues began their playoff round. In the Emon Lodge caging, the nine-team league was down to two with Mobil beating Pacific Islands Club in the semifinals and Mariana Resort downing AXE Proa in another Final Four pairing. In the DL Corp. caging, Maplas and Kamikaze survived the first round of the playoffs after eliminating Yuichiro and Navy Hill, respectively.

Still in basketball, the Kanoa women's caging was also down to two teams after last Friday's games, while the Rotary youth caging started its U15 division. The finalists in the Kanoa caging were Bublebxtt and Yoloswag Attack, which ousted the Ballersss in the double-elimination playoffs, while KFC/Taco Bell, Rebelholics, and DYS won their opening matches in the Rotary U15 division.

In baseball, the 2nd Annual Triple A Youth Baseball kicked off at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield with the Giants, Braves, Padres, and Pirates winning their respective opening matches.

Over at the Capital Hill Ballfield, Sakudi notched its third women's title after edging 670 Babes in the finals of the Chamolinian Softball Association league.

In badminton, elimination games in the 2013 Shirley's Badminton Classic continued.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the CNMI-led North Pacific Team pose for a group photo at the conclusion of the 2013 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji last Friday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Frank "The Crank" Camacho holds his ground against Japan's Koshi Matsumoto during their bout in PXC 38 at the University of Guam Fieldhouse.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Trench Tech's Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez, right, connects on a kick to Spike 22's Tony "Rush" Reyes during their bantamweight bout in PXC 38 at the University of Guam Fieldhouse.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Padres' Patrick Tenorio makes eye contact with their catcher before throwing a pitch during their game against the Yankees in the 2nd Annual Triple A Youth Baseball last week at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A KFC/Taco Bell player drives to the baseline against an Ol'Aces 1 defender during the opening game in the U15 division of the Rotary caging last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI's Chris Cajigan, left, joins three other finishers in the boys U15 singles division of the 2013 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships for a group photo in Fiji last Friday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI's Michael Ren, center, poses with U12 players during the awards ceremony for the 2013 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji last Friday.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Kamikaze's Marlon De Dios gets away from Navy Hill defenders during their playoff game in the DL Corp. caging last week at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Lee gives CNMI gold medal in 2013 POJC

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Carol Lee kept her perfect record in the 2013 ITF Pacific Oceania Junior Championships en route to ruling the girls U12 singles division of the annual tournament last Friday in Fiji.

Lee clinched the singles championship in her age group after sweeping Tahiti's Naia Guitton in the finals, 6-1, 6-1. The CNMI bet never dropped a set in the tournament, winning all her five games in pool play and the two playoff matches.

Joining Lee and Guitton in the Top 3 was the latter's compatriot Lea Lamorelle, who defeated the CNMI's Tania Tan in the consolation game, 6-4, 6-2.

Lee's victory in the U12 division gave the Commonwealth its lone gold medal in the singles division, as finalists Michael Ren and Christian Cajigan fell short in their respective championship games.

Ren, who was unbeaten in pool play, was pitted against Tahiti's Gillian Osmont in the boys U12 finals, and lost, 2-6,

See LEE on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, the CNMI's Tania Tan, Carol Lee, and two Tahiti players pose for a group photo after the awards ceremony for the U12 singles event in the 2013 Pacific Oceania Junior Championship in Fiji last Friday.

Three-peat for Mobil

Mobil's Marvin Rabauliman drives past Mariana Resort's Jawn Joyner during the fourth quarter of their title game in the Emon Lodge caging last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Mobil kept its reign in the Emon Lodge No. 179 Brotherhood Basketball League 2013/Docomo Pacific Cup after beating Mariana Resort, 94-85, in a winner-take-all final last Saturday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Mobil withstood Mariana Resort's repeated comeback bids to top all three editions of the Emon Lodge caging. Jun Estolas, Freddie Pelisamen, Marvin Rabauliman, and even Errol Peredo canned timely baskets to stop Mariana Resort's momentum.

Mariana Resort made one final rally under the two-minute mark when it cut the lead that once stood at 17 to 4, 82-86, after Rolly Paraiso's open shot under the basket off Jawn Joyney's steal, 1:16 left on the clock. However, Estolas quickly brought the lead back to 6 with a floater against the outstretched arms of Paraiso and Marlon Sison.

See THREE-PEAT on Page 26

Lassiter gets TKO win over former Olympian

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Saipan's Mylo "Bam Bam" Lassiter won by TKO against France's Ferrid "Hurricane" Kheder in the main event in the Rites of Passage 15: Wrath of the Warriors last Friday at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort.

Lassiter earned the TKO victory, his fourth, at the 4:17 mark of the third and final round, as he unleashed a flurry of punches while on top of Kheder and referee Keith Nabors stepped in to stop the fight. Had Nabors did not pull the plug on Kheder, Lassiter would have won on scorecards anyway, as he was the aggressor in the majority of the bout. Kheder was on the defensive side of the 200 plus-lb fight, opting to go for his grappling skills, which Lassiter countered with consistent strikes on his foe's body, face, and even the legs every time he managed to get out of the former's hold.

With the former Olympian Kheder failing to neutralize Lassiter while down the canvas in the first round, the visiting fighter once tried a Guillotine choke on the Trench Tech bet in the second round

See LASSITER on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Trench Tech's Mylo "Bam Bam" Lassiter uses his thigh and hands to neutralize France's Ferrid "Hurricane" Kheder during the main event bout in the Rites of Passage 15: Wrath of the Warriors last Friday at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort.